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B. A. Huffman

A Memorial

AND

BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

OF THE COUNTIES OF

Merced, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Tuolumne and Mariposa, CALIFORNIA.

∴ ILLUSTRATED. ∴

Containing a History of this Important Section of the Pacific Coast from the Earliest Period of its Occupancy to the Present Time, together with Glimpses of its Prospective Future; with full-page Portraits of some of its most Eminent Men, and Biographical Mention of many of its Pioneers, and also of Prominent Citizens of To-day.

"A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants."—*Macaulay.*

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CONTENTS.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA:

Discovery 9
The Name "California" 9
Further Discoveries 10
Catholic Missionaries 10
California Divided 12
The Period 1811–'23 12
The Period 1823–'36 13
The American Immigration 14
The Mexican War 15
The American Period 16
Donner Party 16
Governmental 17
Discovery of Gold 17
State Government 18
Present Status 19
Topography 20
Geological History 23
Climate 24
Facts Worth Knowing 29
Wonderful 30
The Argonauts 38

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY:

Origin of the Name 41
Geographical 42
Geological 43
The Primitive Landscape 48
The Valley in May 49
A Most Promising Country 50
The Chief Sources of Wealth 52
Floods and Drouths 52
Indians 56

MERCED COUNTY:

Boundaries and Area 61
Land Grants 61
Soil 62
Water Courses 62
Origin of the Name 62
Organization of the County 63
The Original County Seat 63
Its Removals 64
Court House 64
Early Settlers 65
Live Stock 68
Agriculture 69
Sketch of W. H. Hartley 70
Fruit-Growing 75
Raisin Grapes 77
Buhach 77
Railroads 78
Irrigation 78
Crocker-Huffman, Land and Water Company 78
Commercial and Savings Bank of Merced 84
East Side Canal and Irrigation Company 85

Chowchilla Canal 87
Education 87

MERCED CITY:

Location and Advantages. 89
The Beginning..... 89
Merced District 90
Organized as a City 90
Banks 91
Merced Academy 92
El Capitan Hotel..... 02
Flouring Mill..... 93
Societies..... 93
Newspapers..... 96

OTHER TOWNS:

Los Baños..... 99
Merced Falls 99
Snelling.....100
Volta.....101
Plainsburg, etc 102

STANISLAUS COUNTY:

Boundaries 103
Water Courses.....103
Mexican Grants.....105
Organization 105
First Election 106
First Official Proceedings.....107
First Grand Jury.....107
County Seat Removals.....107
Educational 110
Early Settlers 111
Some Early Troubles 111
Products of the County.....112
Fruit Growing. 113
Red Mountain Vineyard 114
Irrigation 115

MODESTO:

Location and Beginning.....120
Present Aspect of the City 121
Its Incorporation.....122
Churches 122
Banks 122
Lodges 123
Newspapers 125
Modesto *Herald*.....127
Newspapers of the Past 129

OTHER TOWNS:

Oakdale 129
Waterford 133
Hickman 133
Knight's Ferry 133
Sketch of Abraham Schell.....136
Newspapers of Knight's Ferry 138
Buena Vista, etc.....139
La Grange 140
Dead Towns 142

CALAVERAS COUNTY:

Physical Features 147
The Soil.....148
Big Trees.....149
Other Natural Wonders 150
Agriculture and Fruit Growing.....150
Canals, Irrigation and Mining 152
Education 156
Railroads.....156

SAN ANDREAS:

Board of Trade.....157
Mining.....157
Present Advantages..... 157
Newspapers 158
Societies 159

ANGEL'S CAMP.....160

OTHER TOWNS:

Altaville 163
Murphy's 163
Mokelumne Hill.....165
Milton.....165
Copperopolis, etc 165

TUOLUMNE COUNTY:

Area, Topography, etc. 168
Water-Shed and the Glaciers.....169
Large Canal Project.....170
Tuolumne County Water Company.....170
Places of Interest, the Big Trees, etc 171
A Historic County 172
Troublous Times.....172
Reminiscence of the Early Days 175
Agriculture.....177
Fruit and Vine Interests 177
Education 179

SONORA:
Location, etc 180
Early Days 180
The County Seat 181
Organized as a City 181
Industries 182
Mines of the District 183
The Press 185
OTHER TOWNS:
Columbia 185
Jamestown 186
Chinese Camp, etc 186
MARIPOSA COUNTY:
Organization, Boundaries and Area 190
Mining 190
Agriculture, etc 191
Mariposa 191
Hornitos 192
Coulterville 193
Yo Semite 194
Mariposa Grove 197

BIOGRAPHIGAL SKETGHES.

A

Adams, E. W 307
Adams, Wm.....293
Alexander, J.....329
Allen, H. G.....198
Angel, Bennett 390
Appling, E. H..... ...226
Arata, Paul.....374
Atwood, Henry..... 206
Austin, C. W.....216
Averill Bros. & Hall.....332
Ayala, J. A..... ... 337

B

Baker & Deschamp. 390
Bangs, R. E.....250
Bangs, V. E.... 291
Barnett, E. Z.....326
Barrow, N.....339
Bartlett, R. F.....294
Basso, Nicolo.....351
Baxter, J. C.....308
Beausang, J. F..... 201
Bell, T. C..... 358
Bentley, R. H.....361
Berry, James.....328
Bertolacci, G. T.....215
Blacker, G. H.....381
Bibby, N..... ...315
Bishop, Silas.....228
Bittick, J. B. L.....287
Bonillas, A.... 294
Boone, F. B..... ...314
Breen, Nicholas.....323
Brewster, L. O..... 289
Brem, Henry..... 302
Bromley, R. I.... 305
Brown, A. F.....371
Brown, William.....256
Bunker, Palmer.....263
Burden, C. H..... 405
Burgess, H. A..... 283
Byrum, M. V..... 271

C

Cady, J. S ... .316
Caldwell, T. A.....379
Cameron, G. W. 340
Carmichael, T. J 256
Carpenter, J. H.....261
Carver, A. G.....299
Casey, William.....217
Claxton, Wm. C.....216
Cocanour, J. B.....263
Cogswell, C. M.....238
Collins, Asa..... 363
Conlin, Thomas.....334
Conner, John.....232
Conway, Sam..... ..205
Cooley, John.....217
Copeland, J. F 377
Coulter, A. H..... ..213
Covert, W. A.....330
Crawford, E. C.....281
Cressey, A. L.. 233
Crooks, William 357
Cunningham, J.....393
Cutting, Ephraim.....248

D

Dambacher, F 393
Davey, J. C ... .304
Davies, J. V... 272
Davis, B. F..... 317
Davis, F. C.....335
Day, F. H..... 306
Davis, Hannah J.....309
Day, Louis H.....382
Demarest, D. D.....211
Dennett, L. L.....260
Dingley, A. S.....396
Dolling, Otto..... 220
Dorsey, Caleb.....367
Douglass, G. B.....310
Drake, Jacob.....251
Drummond, A. W 341
Drummond, J. Q.....295
Dunbar, Willis.... 230
Dunlap, J. W.... 211

E

Early, J. C.....351
Eastman, W. W.....311
Eaton, J. M.....365
Edwards, J. H.....398
Evans, C. W.....277

F

Fagan, Mrs. Emma.....209
Fairbanks, J.....362
Farrier, James..... ..302
Faure, A.....213
Ferrell, W. J.... 257
Finney, L. A.....404
Fitzgerald, J.....347
Fowler, B. F.....398
Frazier, Isaac..... ...363
Fulkerth, L. W.....369

G

Gardner, J.....320
Garrard, W.....338
Gatzman, E.....369
Getchell, C. W..... 158
Gibson, S.....402
Giovanetti, A.....371
Golden, G. H.....271
Gottschalk, C. V..... ...350
Gray, Manuel 312
Green, Benj.....286
Greiersen, George..... .218
Griffith, J..... 282
Grubaugh, S. G.....201
Grubb, D. H.....318

H

Hale, G. W.....233
Hallock, R. F. L..... 258
Halstead, G. W..... ..274
Hamilton, Mrs. N. E.....259
Hanscom, S. L.....127
Hardy, Thomas... 319
Harp, T. J..... 198
Harris, Ira.....375
Hartley, W. H.... 70
Haslacher & Kahn.....268
Haslacher, J.....269
Hayes, G. A.....265
Heinsdorff, J.....216
Hewel, A..... 391
Hicks, E. A 260
Hill, C. S. S.....290

Hoisholt, B.....311
Hooper, V. C. W.....407
Howell, Frank 279
Howes, W. L.....350
Hubbel, John.....275
Hudelson, F. M.....327
Hudelson, J. W.....373
Hudelson, R. T.....337
Huffman, C. H 82
Hughes, Owen 336
Hughson, Hiram.....399

I

Iuch, R.....345
Ivett, J. L 342

J

Johns, T. W 235
Johnson, A. W.....318

K

Kahn, Louis ... .270
Keilbar, Adam... 223
Kelly, Wm. A ... .203
Kelsey, G. P 279
Kelsey, H. G.....343
Kerr, H. A 336
Kerr, J. F 306

L

Lane, T. M 215
Leclert, S. T 285
Lee, Lewis 221
Leeper, Robert.....356
Leggett, T. H.....205
Leonard, Thomas 286
Lindsay, T. L.....349
Loney, James.....292
Love, Alexander.....246
Love, Samuel.....264

M

Macomber, G. A. & F. S.....301
Maguire, G. W. ... .300
Mahady, J.....324
Mallory, J. F.....241
Mann, W. S.....333
Mason E. C.....395
Matteson, Mrs. H. S 273
Matteson, T. J 221
Maxwell, Wm. M.....242
Mayer, F 354
McAdams, E. L.....352
McCabe, G. T.....214
McCarthy, J. D 333
McClosky, J. H 248
McDonough, J.....308
McHugh, J. W 218
McLean, S. M.....249
McLeod, J. M.....262
McTarnahan, C 277
Means, A. J.....234
Mercer, W. J 254
Meyer, H. F 251
Meyers, J. B.....338
Minor, Wm. O 303
Mitchler, F. A.....209
Monohan, James.....335
Monotti, A.....324
Montgomery, J. M 296
Moody, D. R.....387
Morton, P. F.....309
Moulton, E. N 387
Mourot, Julien.....276
Murphy, Lewis 370

N

Nelson, C. C 396
Nelson, Christian 200
Nelson, Henry.....343
Nelson, N. C.....334
Nicol, G. W 278
Norvell, J. A 253

O

Ordway, N. F.....327
Oliver, D. R 378
Osler, C. H 229
Ostrom, G. P.....383
Owens, W. C 397

P

Palmer, W. H.....239
Parsons, E 376
Patison, H. & H. C.....261
Patterson, A. J.....236
Peachy, T. G 280
Peak, Luke.....239
Phelps, Josiah 381
Phenegar, G. R 394
Pingree, Wm. C.....202
Poor, F. G.....258
Post, C. A 388
Prowse, J. H 384
Purvis, R. B ... .370

R

Radcliffe, C. D 98
Ralph, Frank J 401
Rechenbach, F.....302
Rector, E. G.....266
Reddick, J. B.....353
Reed, I. H.....352
Reed, Myron H.....231
Reeder, R. H.....365
Reynolds, E.....212
Reynolds, F. W.....313
Richardson, T 226
Ripperden, I 357
Ritchey, M. M.....322
Robinson, John.....384
Robinson, Wm.....325
Rodgers, E. A.....394
Rodgers, J. H..... 97
Rogers, S 237
Romans, John.....344
Rush, Jonas.....379
Russell, E.....321
Rydberg, J. A 246

S

Salau, H. F..... 277
Sauchez, Frank.....366
Saunders, D. E..... 227
Sayers, Hugh... 359
Schell, Abraham 136
Schell, H. R.....224
Schnider, John.....244
Shaffer, G. W.....346
Sheldon, D. N.....245
Sherburn, David.....288
Shine, J. H.....389
Smith, C. W.....275
Smith, Norman.....320
Smith, O. E.....266
Smith, S. A.....341
Smith, T. N.....355
Smith, W. C.....356
Snyder, Peter.....354
Solinsky, F. J 243
Sorensen, M. J.....367
Sorenson, R. A.....380
Spears, D. K.....346
Spencer & Crow.....125
Standiford, A. N.....372
Steel, John.....236
Steffler, W. H.....199
Stevenson, C. C.....383
Stickler, George.....355
Stonesifer, C. A.....385
Strother, W. E.....273
Stuart, J. F 222
Sturgeon, E. L.....314
Swenson, W. O.....223

T

Taylor, Allen.....230

Thomas, Henry.....219
Thomason, G. W.....267
Thorn, B. K.....348
Thornton, Harry.....298
Thorpe, Moses.....210
Threlfall, C. H.....220
Trammell, G 270
Trumbly, J. F. 225
Tryon, G. C.....313
Tulloch, C. T.....380
Tulloch, James.....349
Turner, B. C. H.....406
Turner, G.....228
Turner, J. L 204
Turpen, B. S.....244
Tynan, T. E.....375

U

Underwood, H. L.....360

V

Voight, F. H.....199

W

Wagner, E. H.....297
Wallace, T.....331
Wallis, Wm. K.....385
Walthall, L. B.....207
Walther, G. W.....267
Warfield, C. A. H.....207
Welch, P. Y.....252
Wells, J. H.....240
Wells, Squire 359
Wells, T. W.....284
Wells, Wm.....255
Wesson, G. F.....321
Whitmore, R. K.....386
Whitworth, H.....278
Widman, Adolph 312
Wood, D. M.....339
Wood, Harvey.....345
Wootten, Sarah.....243
Worthington, J. A.....315
Wren, R. T. 360

Z

Zeller, Gustav 382
Zotte, Adolph C.....297

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Hartley, W. H.....70
Huffman, C. H.....Frontispiece.
The Domes.....62
The "Sentinels" and Pavilion..149
Lower Chilnooalna Falls.....190

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

DISCOVERY.

THE discovery of California was directly the result of a belief entertained in the early part of the sixteenth century that there was a direct passage from the Atlantic ocean to the Indian seas. This highway was sought for by various navigators of that time, and when Hernando Cortez landed in Vera Cruz in April, 1519, he was confident that he had reached Asia. It was his intention to settle the shadow of doubt by following the coast around to India, and this resolution in succeeding years resulted in the discovery of California.

Cortez founded the town of Zacatula, 180 miles north of Acapulco, Mexico, where he built a fleet, and a few years later, in 1532, sent out the ships in search of lands unknown to previous travelers. The voyage was a disastrous one, and in 1533 he sent out two ships in search of the missing vessels. These ships were under the command of Hernando Grijalva and Diogo Becerra de Mendoza, the latter a cousin of Cortez. Grijalva soon abandoned the search in despair and returned to Zacatula; Mendoza was murdered by the crew of his ship, headed by one Fortuno Jimenez, a pilot; and the mutineers followed the coast northward until a beautiful bay, since called La Paz, was reached. This bay is on the western side of the gulf of California, 100 miles north of Cape St. Lucas. Jimenez and nearly all of his crew were here murdered by Indians, and the leador of the mutineers was not aware, at the time of his tragic death, that he possessed the proud distinction and would be credited in history as the discoverer of California.

Cortez landed at Santa Cruz, then known as Jimenez bay, May 3, 1535, but owing to the hostility of the Indians he was compelled a year later to abandon his possessions. In 1539, he sent Captain Francisco de Ulloa to the gulf, which he explored nearly to the mouth of the Colorado, and then, rounding the point, sailed up the outer coast to Cedros Islands.

THE NAME "CALIFORNIA."

It was Ulloa who, on this voyage, applied the name of California to the peninsula, the source of the christening being an old romance by Ordonez do Montalvo, a great favorite among the Spanish, from 1510 to 1526, in which he describes an "island of California on the

right hand of the Indias very near the Terrestrial Paradise," peopled with black women, griffins and other creatures of the author's imagination. While there is no historical proof of the application of this name, the coincidence is so striking that authorities generally agree that the title "California" was derived from this source.

FURTHER DISCOVERIES.

The honor of first sighting New, or Upper, California was reserved to Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, one of the pilots of Cortez, who in 1542, under instructions from the viceroy of Spain, Antonio de Mendoza, sailed from the port of Navidad in Mexico, on an expedition of discovery of the coast toward the north. He anchored in San Diego bay, to which he gave the name of San Miguel, and in October, 1542, visited the Santa Catalina island. After touching at the Indian town of Xuca, in the vicinity of what is now known as San Buenaventura, Cabrillo made his way northward until he reached Monterey bay, where the brave navigator a short time after died.

He was succeeded by Bartolome Ferrello, a Levantine pilot, who continued northward until he arrived at the region between Humboldt and Trinidad bays, after which he turned south again. No further efforts were made to discover the mysteries of the upper coast for thirty-five years following.

In 1577 Captain Drake, the famous navigator, started on his great buccaneering expedition along the Spanish coast, and in 1579 he determined to make for England by way of the Cape of Good Hope. Contrary winds drove his ship northward, but finding himself in the arctic latitudes he headed south again until he reached the latitude of thirty-eight degrees, where he discovered a country which from its white cliffs he called New Albion. Here he found a bay in which he anchored, and formally took possession of the country in the name of Queen Elizabeth. Some diversity of opinion exists as to the identity of Drake's anchorage, some assuming that he reefed sails in Bodega bay, others that he stopped in the waters now bearing his name, and others still that he had reached the bay of San Francisco. The general inference, however, is, that Drake anchored in the bay that now bears his name, and did not discover San Francisco. Several years later voyages were made by Francisco Gali, Carmenon and Sebastian Viscaino.

Neither of these voyagers accomplished much more than his predecessors, and between the years 1615 and 1668 eight separate and fruitless efforts to make further discoveries were advanced. The glaring accounts of these explorers excited the public mind for many years. There were visions of a magnificent country, golden sands and pearls of great price, but gradually the adventurous spirits of the conquering Spaniards waned, and for more than 100 years there is a blank in the annals of California.

CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES.

Resuming the second historic period of California, we find the Jesuit regime inaugurated by the Spanish Court at Madrid, in 1677, when it was decided that the survey,

conquest and settlement of the new country should be undertaken on a new basis. The instructions were accordingly sent to Enrique de Rivera, then viceroy of New Spain, as well as Archbishop of Mexico, and the prosecution of the enterprise was entrusted to Admiral Don Isidro Otondo. The plan was, that the undertaking should be conducted at the expense of the crown, which was to supply Otondo with a body of priests and a sufficient number of soldiers to protect the missionaries. The spiritual government of the expedition was conferred on the Jesuits, then the most powerful priestly organization in Mexico, with Father Ensebio Francisco Kuhn—a German by birth and called by the Spaniards Kino—at their head. The party left Chacala in May, 1683, and sailed up the gulf, landing at various Indian towns on the peninsula and preaching their gospel to the (so called) heathens. In later years Kuhn associated himself with Fathers Salvatierra Picola and Ugarte, and these pioneers of Christianity and civilization, filled with a pious zeal which urged them on against every obstacle,—the unwillingness of their own society, the indifference and backwardness of the court, the delay of officials, and their own limited finances as well as the small number of their coadjutors,—pursued their labors to a glorious end. In 1691 Kuhn and Salvatierra reached the modern Arizona line, and afterward explored the country as far as the Gila river.

Later on the Jesuits began to lose their influence, a feeling of enmity grew up against them, and they became involved in vexatious controversies; settlers and miners began to advocate secularization; hatred to the priests was fomented, and in 1766 Charles III. summarily put an end to all the strife by an ordinance for the instant and general expulsion of the Jesuits from all the Spanish dominions. Early in 1768 the decree went into effect, and California was again left to the savage tribes which had peopled it from remote ages.

We find the next historic period of civilized invasion of California was by the Franciscan friars, following the expulsion of the Jesuits. Their instructions were to take possession of the missions in peninsular California, and also to establish new missions which should protect the country further north against seizure by the English or French The convent of San Fernando, the principal establishment of the Franciscan monks in New Spain, was given charge of the work, and the head of the convent selected Junipero Serra as the head of the proposed establishments.

In 1768, Serra, with fifteen friars, arrived in Lower California, and San Diego—the San Miguel of Cabrillo—having been decided on as the objective point, two expeditions by land and two by sea were started for that place. Experiencing many hardships, privations and diseases, the expeditions arrived at their destination, and on July 11, 1769, the mission of San Diego was founded. Three days later Captain Portolá, who afterward became first governor of the territory, set out in company with friars Crespí and Gomez, with forty-five other whites and a

few Indians, with a view of occupying Monterey. The object of this expedition was not accomplished, but resulted in the discovery of San Francisco bay; and January 24, 1770, a second attempt to find Monterey was made. June 23 the mission of San Cárlos and the presidio, or fort, of Monterey was founded, and a formal declaration of the possessions of the country in the name of the King of Spain was made.

The foregoing events were the subject for hearty congratulations and prayers in Mexico and immediate and liberal provision was made for the establishment of other missions.

The mission of San Antonio was founded at the foot of the Santa Lucia mountains, July 14, 1771; that of San Gabriel, on the river of the same name, in August, 1771 and that of San Luis Obispo in September, 1772. Four years later, in 1776, the missions of San Juan Capistrano and San Francisco were founded. Subsequently the following missions were founded: Santa Clara, 1777; San Buenaventura, 1782; Santa Barbara, 1786; Concepcion, 1782; Soledad, 1791; Santa Cruz, 1794; San Fernando, 1797; San Miguel, 1797; San Juan, 1797; San José in this same year, and San Luis Rey in 1798; those of Solano, San Rafael and Santa Ynez being built in the present centur .

CALIFORNIA DIVIDED.

The division of California into two distinct provinces was projected in 1796, but it was not effected until 1804, when a royal order from Spain, in which the official names of the new provinces were fixed as Antiqua and Nueva California, was received. The fixing of the boundaries of the two provinces was left to the Franciscans, and Arrillaga was made political and military governor of Nueva California, at a salary of $4,000 a year. The first years of his term were devoted to interior explorations, during which time the river San Joaquin was named, and the Tulare, Mariposa, King's, Merced and Tuolumne rivers were visited.

THE PERIOD 1811–'23

was characterized by a period of strife growing out of a revolution by which the colonies sought to throw off the Spanish yoke.

On July 24, 1814, Colonel Don José Joaquin de Arrillaga died at Soledad mission, at the age of sixty-four years. He was succeeded by Lieutenant-Governor Pablo Vicente de Sola. It was during his term that the first invasion of a foreign foe, led by Captain Hippolyte Bouchard, commonly known as the "pirate Bouchard," occurred.

Sola made great preparations to receive the unpleasant visitor, and on November 20, 1818, a sentinel on Point Pinos reported that Bouchard's vessels were approaching Monterey. A few hours later two large vessels anchored in the bay and began firing upon Sola's forces, which lined the shore. Nine boats, containing 400 of the invaders, succeeded in landing. Sola, seeing the hopelessness of resistance, spiked his guns, burned his powder, and retreated to the Rancho del Rey, fifteen miles distant, where Salinas City now stands. The invaders killed all the cattle they could find, looted the stores, burned

the guns and set the fort and village on fire.

Leaving Monterey, Bouchard sailed down to the Santa Barbara channel, where he plundered the buildings of the Refugio ranch, killed the cattle and carried away some prisoners. On the 6th of December he stopped at Santa Barbara briefly, exchanged some prisoners, and sailed away—out of the history of California.

February, 1821, Iturbide proclaimed the independence of Mexico. This valiant royalist became regent of Mexico in September of that year. This information reaching Sola, he immediatoly called the commandants of the four presidios to a junta, or council, at Monterey, together with Father Payras as representative of the missions and neophytes. The junta met on the 9th of April, and it was resolved to acquiesce in the regency, to obey the new government, to recognize the dependence of California on the Mexican empire only, and to take the prescribed oath.

Iturbide followed up his past success by proclaiming himself Emperor of Mexico and California, under the title of Agustin I., and sent a commissioner to California to learn the feelings of the people, to obtain an oath of allegiance, to raise the new national flag, and in general to superintend public affairs. This commissioner was Fernandez de San Vicente, a canon of the Durango Cathedral. He went to Monterey on September 26, and there obtained the oath of allegiance, and on November 9, 1822, organized the first legislature of California, presided over by Governor Sola, and of which Francisco de Haro was secretary. Sola was chosen as deputy to the Mexican Congress, and Captain Luis Argüello was elected to the office of acting governor. Two days after Sola's departure for Mexico, Argüello assumed the cares of government, November 20, at Monterey.

The Iturbidian dynasty came to an inglorious end in March, 1823, when he was forced to abdicate and be banished from the country. One of his last official acts was to appoint a governor to succeed Sola, choosing for the position Captain Bonifacio de Tosta. He held the office but a short time, and the only official act he performed was the collection of money at Gaudalajara, on salary account.

Then came the death of Iturbide, July 19, 1824, and the formation of the Mexican Republic, the constitution of which formed New Spain, Yucatan, the Internal Provinces of the East and West and the Californias, into a federation of nineteen States and four Territories. The executive power was vested in a president and vice-president, and the legislative in a senate and chamber of deputies. The States were recognized as free, independent and sovereign, and the Territories, of which Alta California was one and Baja California was another, were to be administered by a governor appointed by the president and a legislature to be elected by the people.

From this time forward California was no longer a royal or an imperial province, but a republican territory.

THE PERIOD BETWEEN 1823 AND 1836

was noted for many changes, unrest, disaffection and revolts in the territory of the young republic.

In 1825, Victoria. then President of the Mexican Republic, decided not to confirm Arguëllo in office, and in February, 1825, appointed Lieutenant Colonel José Maria de Echeandia, Governor of both Californias. He met Arguëllo at San Diego, October 31, 1825, and received the government at his hands. Arguëllo resumed his former office of commandante of San Francisco, from which office he was removed in 1829, owing to his dissipated habits. He died March 27, 1830, at the age of forty-six.

THE AMERICAN IMMIGRATION.

The first Americans reached California overland during Echeandia's administration, in 1828. These were a small company of hunters and trappers commanded by Captain Jedediah S. Smith. The party were treated with signal cruelty by Echeandia and forced to leave the country. Following this event came the insurrection headed by Herrera and Solis, two appointees of the government, on the night of November 12, 1829. The insurgents were arrested and sent to Mexico, where in a short time they were liberated.

Next came a revolt of the San José and Santa Clara Indians; the rise of Santa Ana in Mexico; the successive appointments as Governors of Manuel Victoria, José Figueroa (who founded the village of Yerba Buena), Colonel Gutierrez and Colonel Mariano Chico.

Just prior to the American conquest of California came, on November 6, 1836, the revolution of Alvarado, which ended in placing him in the Governor's seat, and also placed his uncle, Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, in military command of the State.

The State was then divided into two cantons and an independent system of government was adopted.

The steady flow of Americans into California caused the Mexican government some anxiety, and in 1840 Alvarado was instructed to take a census,—the first ever taken within the boundaries of the State.

This census developed 148 foreigners scattered about over the various missions, not including hundreds of others who had settled without permission. In his report Alvarado stated that the condition of California was helpless, and that Americans were literally pouring into the country. No sooner did Santa Ana, who was once more in power, hear of this, than he appointed a new governor in the person of a brigadier general of the Mexican army, by the name of José Manuel Micheltorena, who assumed office at Los Angeles, December 3, 1842.

A few weeks prior to this event Commodore Jones, in command of the American squadron then stationed at Callao, receiving erroneous information that war had been declared between the United States and Mexico, repaired to Monterey in the frigate United States, and took possession of the town in the name of the American Republic, October 19, 1842. Subsequently ascertaining that there was no war between the two governments, he drew down the American flag with many apologies, and went on board his vessel with his marines.

This incident so exasperated the Mexican

authorities that in 1843 an order for the complete expulsion of Americans from California was issued. This resulted in the formation of two factions,—Governor Micheltorena and J. A. Suttor, of Sacramento, on the one side, and Alvarado, Pico and Castro on the other. Each party gathered around them their coherents, and the opposing forces met on the plains of Cahuenga, near San Fernando, February 15, 1845. Scarcely had the battle begun when it was ended, by Micheltorena's capitulation, and Pico, the last of the Mexican governors, was once more placed at the head of affairs in California, February 22, 1845.

The same year, in the month of May, a United States expedition of a scientific character for the Pacific coast was organized, and John Charles Fremont, an officer of the United States Topographical Engineers, placed at its head. This expedition, which numbered sixty-two men,, reached California in January, 1846.

Fremont met Castro at Monterey and explained to him the object of his expedition, to which Castro did not apparently object. In March, however, Castro wrote Fremont that he would have to leave the country; but instead of doing so Fremont moved to a commanding ridge of the Gabilan mountains, back of San Juan Capistrano, where he threw up works for defense and defiantly waved the stars and stripes over his fortifications. Castro gathered his men, numbering 200, and prepared to assail Fremont's position. The latter withdrew, however, and marched off toward Sonoma. Castro did not attempt pursuit, but issued his proclamation of March 13, in which he declared Fremont and party a band of highwaymen.

The first event of importance to the Americans in California was the capture, on June 14, 1846, of the military post of Sonoma, commanded by M. G. Vallejo. Fremont had just been informed of hostilities between Mexico and the United States, and of the determination of the United States authorities to capture and hold California. After several consultations with Fremont, William B. Ide and Ezekiel Merritt, two American settlers, with a number of men captured the post without a struggle, with eighteen prisoners, nine brass cannon, 250 muskets, and public property valued at $1,200. Two days later, a piece of coarse, white cotton cloth, about two yards long and a yard wide, was procured, and along the lower edge of it was sewed a narrow strip of red woolen stuff, cut from a worn-out undershirt of one of the men On this was painted a single star, and also a figure of a grizzly bear. Beneath the whole was painted the inscription "California Republic." As soon as it was completed it was run up, amid the shouts of the Americans assembled, in place of the Mexican colors. This event took place June 14, 1846, and such were the origin, composition and raising of the "Bear Flag" of California.

THE MEXICAN WAR.

May 13, 1846, the United States Government declared war with Mexico. About this time Fremont had joined forces with the Bear Flag men, and was arrayed before the

forces of Castro, near San Rafael, where a conflict ensued, and a number of Americans were killed. Commodore John D. Sloat, on board the United States ship Savannah, then lying at Mazatlan, was instructed to seize what ports of Alta California he could, and he at once set out upon his mission. He arrived at Monterey July 2, 1846, and on the 7th he demanded the surrender of that place. There was no opposition, the Mexican colors were hauled down from the custom-house, and the American flag hoisted in their place. From that moment the Mexican Government in California ceased and the sovereignity of the country passed to the United States. Four days later the American flag waved triumphantly at San Francisco, and throughout the country north of the bay, and it was everywhere hailed with unfeigned satisfaction.

The incidents that transpired in California during the war between Mexico and the United States are so familiar to the reader that it is not necessary to recount them here. The acts of Kearny, Johnston, Stockton and Fremont during this campaign were with a few unimportant exceptions characterized by good judgment, valor, and patriotism; and on May 31, 1847, Colonel Richard B. Mason assumed the functions of Governor of California.

THE AMERICAN PERIOD.

The old mission had been "secularized," and the only question was as to the power of the new administration to make new land grants, the missions having been previously disposed of by the Mexican government. Mason not only refrained from making any grants, but insisted that titles and possessory rights should remain as far as practicable as they were on July 7, 1847. In the meantime the country was rapidly filling up with immigrants who crossed the continent with teams, surrounded by constant dangers, particularly in crossing the Sierra mountains during the winter months.

THE DONNER PARTY.

The most tragic affair in the history of immigration to this State was the sad experience of a company of immigrants from Illinois called the Donner party, numbering eighty persons. They reached the eastern slope of the Sierras October 31, 1846, and, owing to lack of provisions, were compelled to push forward regardless of the falling snow which threatend to bury them. Finally finding themselves snowbound, and hemmed in on every side, they built cabins to pass the winter there. In a few weeks starvation stared them in the face, and a party of fifteen was organized to make their way to Sutter's fort for assistance. Only one of the miserable party survived to reach William Johnson's ranch on Bear river, and he carried the sad news to Sutter's fort and San Francisco. Relief parties were immediately organized and started to the rescue of the sufferers. The first party of rescue arrived at the camp near Donner lake, February 19, 1847. Of the eighty persons who composed the party, thirty-six had perished from cold and hunger, Donner and his wife among the number. The

latter, it is said, was murdered by a man of the party named Keseberg, for the valuables she posessed. The sufferers, in order to preserve life, fed upon the corpses of their late companions, several went insane, and others subsequently died from the hardships they had endured. Details of the sufferings of this unfortunate party are heart-rending.

GOVERNMENTAL.

The regulation of the authority and jurisdiction of the American alcaldes, or mayors, was one of Governor Mason's principal duties. The powers exercised by them included the right to sell lots within the limit of their town, and they were also criminal judges up to the point of inflicting the death punishment. The growth of American law during this transitory period was very slow, but gradually the common-law principles and forms were either amalgamated with or supplemented the old customs and procedures.

The first jury in the country was summoned by Walter Cotton, the American alcalde or mayor, of Monterey, in July, 1847, and on December 29 of that year Governor Mason made the great move, ordering all civil cases involving a sum exceeding $100, and all criminal cases of a grave nature, to be tried before a jury. After the peace, crimes were of frequent occurrence, and gradually lynch law became a power in the land. Mason refused to interfere with a course of popular vengeance that alone held lawlessness to some degree in check, and, it being distasteful to him, he demanded to be recalled. In October, 1848, Brigadier General Bennett Riley was directed to relieve Colonel Mason as Governor of California, and the following November Brigadier General Persifer F. Smith was appointed to the command of the United States army on the Pacific coast. Governor Riley entered upon the discharge of his duties April 12, 1849.

THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD

early in 1848, and the confirmation of the repeated reports of the uncounted mineral wealth of the country, attracted the attention of the civilized world to California, and an immigration unprecedented in history was the result. The discovery was contemporaneous with the treaty of peace with Mexico, known as the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and with the transfer of California from Mexico to the United States. The spot where gold was first found was at a place since called Coloma, on a branch of the American river, and its discoverer was James Wilson Marshall, a native of Hope Township, Hunterdon county, New Jersey. Marshall had entered into a partnership with J. A. Sutter on August 19, 1847, for the purpose of erecting a sawmill, and several months were consumed in securing a suitable mill-site. This having been found, as already stated, at Coloma, Marshall engaged several hands and began constructing a mill-race. On the morning of January 19, 1848, while examining the tail-race, Marshall caught the glitter of something that lay lodged in a crevice some inches under water. He picked up the substance, found that it was heavy and of peculiar color. He knew that he held in his hand some sort

of metal, but whether mica, sulphuret of copper or gold he could not determine. He remembered that gold was malleable, and, as this thought passed through his mind, he placed a specimen upon a stone and tested it by striking it with another. The substance did not crack or flake off; it simply bent under the blows. He felt confident that he had discovered gold, and a few days later, having in the meantime discovered other pieces of the same metal, he took them to Sutter's fort, where all doubt as to its being gold was set at rest, after it had been weighed and tested with nitric acid.

The news of the discovery spread like fire among the dry grass on a windy day, and in an incredibly short period of time the mountains were filled with gold-seekers who had deserted the towns. The excitement spread to the Eastern States, and ere long the great rush to California took place. At the end of 1849 the American population of California numbered nearly 100,000 persons. It was these people, brought together from the several States and localities in the Union, that amalgamated and combined to lay the foundations of the wonderful State of California, pre-eminently in fact as well as in name the Golden State of our American Union.

The first recognition of California by the United States Government was in March, 1849, when an appropriation bill was passed by Congress, which extended the revenue laws of the United States over the entire territory. San Francisco was made a port of entry, and Monterey, San Diego and Fort Yuma ports of delivery; a collector of customs was authorized and a complete revenue system adopted.

But soon the subject of a

STATE GOVERNMENT

for themselves was agitated by the people. This resulted in the calling of a convention at Monterey, September 1, 1849, at which a constitution was adopted. The State seal was presented in the name of Caleb Lyons, and also adopted, despite the objections of Vallejo, who had some enmity for the bear which forms its chief figure. The constitution was sent to Governor Riley, and he issued an order for a general election to be held November 13. The successful candidates were: Peter H. Burnett, Governor; John McDougal, Lieutenant Governor, and Edward Gilbert and George W. Wright, Representatives in Congress.

At the same time there were elected in the various districts sixteen Senators and thirty-six Assemblymen, to constitute the first State Legislature. That body met at San José, Saturday, December 15, 1849, and adjourned April 22, 1850, after holding some very stormy sessions. Fremont and Gwin were elected to the United States Senate.

Meanwhile the question of admitting California into the Union was exciting warm debates in Congress, though President Polk had assumed a favorable attitude in the matter. The California representatives, upon their arrival at Washington, presented a copy of the constitution to President Taylor, February 13, 1850, and by special message he

announced the formal application of the new State for admission. The measure was strongly opposed by Henry Clay, of Kentucky, and John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina, and as warmly advocated by Daniel Webster, of Massachusets, William H. Seward, of New York, and several others. A number of compromise measures were submitted and debated, but on September 7, despite the almost general opposition of the Southern Senators, the bill admitting California as a State was passed by a vote of 150 to 56. Two days later, on September 9, the bill was signed by President Fillmore (President Taylor having died July 9,), and California became the Golden State of the Union. Its representatives at once took their seats in Congress, and when the glorious news reached the people of California celebrations of the event took place with great enthusiasm in all the towns within the boundaries of the new State. No State had before entered the Union with such an extraordinarily rapid and triumphant career. With the passing of the golden era, the admission of the State into the Union and the purging of society by the heroic treatment of the vigilantes, the history of California loses its romantic features and glides quietly into the plain record of passing events.

In the first decade appeared the clipper ships in response to the demands for quick transportation of freights, the introduction of the Pony Express across the continent in 1859; the opening of the Panama railroad for business on January 23, 1855, the Fraser river gold excitement of 1858, and the organization of the Steam Navigation Company in March, 1854, for traffic on the interior waters of the State. The output of mineral in these ten years was phenomenal, the figures reaching $553,000,000. The agricultural resources of the State were also largely developed, and many manufacturing industries were established.

On February 25, 1854, the Legislature was removed to Sacramento, which became the State capital. In the second decade, 1860–'70, the following were the principal events: Steamer communication with the Hawaiian Islands established in 1861; a line of steamers started to China in 1867; first steamer communication with Australia in 1869; disastrous floods in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys in the winter of 1861–'62; completion of the overland telegraph from Western Missouri to San Francisco, October 22, 1861, and the opening of the Central Pacific Railroad in May, 1869.

PRESENT STATUS.

It was also in this decade that the viticultural interests of the State began to be developed, and California was rapidly pushing her way into the front rank of the cereal and fruit producers. Exports grew to the enormous figures of 18,000,000 centals of wheat for the decade, to nearly 2,500,000 barrels of flour, to over 1,000,000 centals of barley and to 70,000,000 pounds of wool. In 1850 the population of the State was 92,597; in 1860 it was 379,994; in 1870 it had increased to 560,257; in 1880 to 864,694, and in 1890 the population is 1,204,002.

So far as the State is concerned, California is again, as in 1849, the great attractive region of the world. The days of the Argonauts are over, but the enormous agricultural, horticultural, and viticultural interests, the extraordinary growth of her population; the wonderful impetus that is being given to enterprise in general; the appreciation of real estate and the marvelous new life that has struck the southern San Joaquin valley, as also the southern counties of the State; her climate, scenery, opportunities for solid investment and profitable returns; her standard of culture and educational advantages—all of these have again crowned California anew as the great Golden State.

THE TOPOGRAPHY

of California is of the most varied description imaginable and comprises what may without exaggeration be called an unequal aggregation of vast mountain ranges, lofty glacier-clad peaks, extensive valleys, boisterous mountain torrents, and smoothly flowing rivers, land-locked bays, peaceful lakes, the most tremendous forest growth ever seen, and a coast line without a superior. For 800 miles from north to south along the Pacific ocean sweeps this great commonwealth, while it is almost 200 miles from the sands of the seashore to the foot of the eastern slope of the Sierra, which marks the limit of the State in that direction. The sinuosities of the coast are such that California has nearly 1,100 miles of shore line, while the vast territory of more than 100,000,000 acres is comprised within its boundaries. Such an extent is so immense that some means of comparison must be furnished in order to secure an adequate conception thereof.

If California were on the Atlantic coast it would extend from the latitude of Cape Cod down the coast to Charleston, South Carolina, thus covering the shore line of the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolinas. Inland it would reach across New Jersey and about half way across Pennsylvania. With her 155,000 square miles of area, in which can be found every physical characteristic and variety of climate, California is an empire within itself, and in every respect may well challenge comparison with any equal area in the world.

Two great mountain ranges traverse the State throughout its entire length. On the east is the Sierra Nevada with the loftiest summits existent in the United States. On the west is the Coast Range, divided into many spurs, with extensive intervening valleys, and with a general altitude far less than the Sierras. In the northern part of the State there are two mountain ranges verging toward each other until merged into one, and the same thing is repeated in the south. The Coast Range is divided into numerous spurs under other names. Thus the range that particularly divides the fertile valleys of the south from the Mojave desert is called variously the Sierra Madre and the San Bernardino mountains, and has almost a due east and west course, finally trending off southeasterly across the Colorado desert. On

the north of the Mojave desert is the Tehachapi range, which with the San Emigdio (by some writers spelled Emidio) mountains form the connecting link between the Sierra and the Coast Range. Through Ventura and Santa Barbara counties runs the Santa Ynez spur, which is divided again into the Santa Lucia and Mount Diablo ranges in San Luis Obispo county. The first named keeps well toward the ocean and finally ceases when the bay of Monterey is reached. The other continues up the east side of the Carisa plain, east of the Santa Clara valley, and so on northward, fixing the western limit of the San Joaquin valley, until it terminates in the peak from which the name is derived, near San Francisco bay. A spur from the Diablo range is the Gabilan, which forms the western boundary of the Santa Clara valley, and finally merges into the Santa Cruz mountains, which continue northward until they gradually slope into the low hills upon which San Francisco is situated. Northward of the bay of San Francisco the Coast Range is found more in a body and the valleys are few and limited.

Beyond the Coast Range and between it and the Sierra lies the great interior valley, for it is practically one throughout its entire vast length from Shasta on the north to Tehachapi on the south. The northern portion is drained by the Sacramento river, and its tributaries, flowing southward for 200 miles to the bay of San Francisco, while the southern portion is the watershed of the San Joaquin and its tributaries, flowing northward to the same destination. All the principal streams of both ends of this great valley have their source in the Sierra Nevada, the eastern slope of the Coast Range being but poorly provided with water courses.

Commencing at the upper end of this great interior valley the Sacramento river receives the Pit, Feather, Yuba, American, Cosumnes, Mokelumne, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Merced, San Joaquin, King's, Kaweah, White and Kern rivers. Besides there are many smaller streams all along the western slope of the Sierra from Shasta to Tehachapi, whose waters are contributed to the same system. The beds of each and all of these streams contain deposits of gold-bearing gravel, and the greater portion of the quartz mines now operated are located on their banks. Their sources in the mountains present some of the grandest scenery in the world, while their waters are utilized largely for both mining and agriculture.

Along the eastern slope of the Coast Range there is not a stream that can be designated by the name of river. In the Sacramento portion of the valley, Clear creek, Stony creek and other streams are tributaries of the river, with numerous other smaller streams. On the western side of the San Joaquin valley, however, their is scarcely a stream whose waters find their way, except in midwinter, to the river. All are lost in the sands soon after reaching the plains.

The western slope of the Coast Range has a number of streams, some of which are of considerable proportions, and are navigable for short distances from the ocean. The Klamath in the northern part of the State is a large

stream, as also the Smith river further north. The Trinity river is an important stream, and so are the Eel, Elk, Mad and Russian rivers, which drain the entire coast from the Oregon line to San Francisco bay.

South of San Francisco are the San Lorenzo, Carmel, Salinas, Pajaro, Santa Maria, Santa Ynez, Santa Clara, Los Angeles, San Gabriel, Santa Ana, Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey, San Dieguito and San Diego rivers.

Besides, many smaller streams are either tributary to those mentioned or flow directly into the ocean. Nearly every mountain cañon, from the peninsula of San Francisco to San Diego, is provided with a stream of greater or less size, some of which assume the proportions of rivers during the rain season.

Some of the streams mentioned as having their source in the Coast Range possess very singular charactoristics, which have given rise to the saying that in California many rivers are turned upside down,—that is, the sandy bed is on the surface and the water flows beneath. This is true in fact of nearly all the southern Coast Range streams. The Salinas in summer resembles a bed of dry sand, yet there is a large body of water underneath, and the apparently dry bed has a most startling habit in the summer of suddenly opening beneath the weight of a horse or team and giving the rider or driver a most uncomfortable and even a dangerous experience. The Santa Ana, Santa Maria, San Gabriel and Los Angeles rivers have the same features. The first named is the most important stream of the far south, and furnishes an immense amount of water for irrigation. It rises far up in the San Bernardino range, on the very crest of the ridge that divides the Mojave desert from the fertile southern valleys. Even before leaving its mountain cañon it is tapped by the irrigators, and thence almost to its mouth there is a perfect network of canals driving their supply from it. More than once is the entire apparent flow diverted into some canal, but a few miles further down the water again rises to the surface and supplies still other systems of irrigation. There are probably few other streams in the world whose waters possess so large an intrinsic value as this. Water rights from this stream have increased immensely in value, and are sold in some instances for as much as $1,000 and $1,200 an inch, and even more. Tens of thousands of acres of land are irrigated from it. The greater portion of the finest orange orchards in southern California owe their existence to the Santa Ana river; and, while it is so insignificant a stream that in more than one place an active man may jump across it at a bound, nevertheless it has added millions to the wealth of the communities which it serves, and each year is the cause of millions of dollars being distributed among the residents along the banks.

Two other rivers of considerable size are deserving of more than passing notice, because of the fact that, though carrying large bodies of water, none of it finds its way into a river running toward the ocean. Rising on the northern slope of the San Bernardino

range is the Mojave river, a never-failing stream of large size where it leaves the mountains. It runs nearly 100 miles directly through the center of the desert, but finally the absorptive character of the soil proves too much and the waters sink in the sand, forming, what is so well known to the old teamsters by this route, the "sink of the Mojave." Some of the water of this river is used at the base of the mountains and even out in the desert for irrigation, but the bulk of it is lost in the sands.

Following the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada for a distance of seventy-five miles through Inyo county is Owens river, emptying into Owens lake, a body of water without an outlet and highly charged with minerals. This river is used largely for irrigation, the land along its banks being very productive when watered.

A notable feature of this part of the State is Death valley. This region has been treated by various writers throughout the State, and has been the subject of a vast amount of romancing as well as misrepresentation. It is situated in the eastern portion of Inyo county, near the Nevada line, and is the sink of a stream called the Amargosa river. It is nearly 400 feet below sea level, and is one of the worst portions of the desert. At present a thorough exploration of it is going on under the auspices of the United States Government, which will result in setting at rest many of the weird tales that have been told concerning it.

THE GEOLOGICAL HISTORY

of the great interior valley of California has been a matter of much discussion, and it would scarcely be expected that the writer could cast any additional light on this region. There is abundant evidence in support of the well grounded theory that at one time the entire valley from Shasta to Tehachapi was a vast lake or inland sea, and that by a great convulsion of nature the mountain barrier through which passes the Golden Gate was riven asunder and the lake drained. Indian tradition, though unreliable, ascribes this origin to the valley, and there are abundant indications that such is the case. The fact that marine shells and the remains of sharks, whales, etc., found high up on the summits of the Coast Range and in places well up the sides of the Sierra, is indisputable evidence of the former presence of a great inland sea, or perhaps the evidence more conclusively shows that the Sierra was once the eastern shore of the Pacific ocean. Along the foothills of the eastern side of the valley may be seen terraces and deposits of sand and gravel in which are yet traceable the action of mighty waves in long ages past. Further south in that remarkable region, the Colorado desert, the same phenomena are found. Away up on the mountain sides are the unmistakable lines showing that at some time this was an ocean beach, while whale bones, coral, shells and other indications of marine life are abundant. The Indian tribes of that region even have a tradition of a time when the desert waste was covered with water and the people inhabited only the highest peaks. They also tell of a period when all the people of the world were drowned except a single

couple, who took refuge on the topmost summit of the loftiest mountain peak, and from whom all the nations of the earth have since been populated. In no part of the world can the geologist find a better or more interesting field for investigation than here. Unsolved problems and mysteries confront him on every hand, requiring a lifetime of study and investigation.

The islands off the southern coast are another feature of great interest which have received scant attention. Catalina, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, San Nicolas and Anacapa are all easily accessible from the mainland and on all the archæologist, the botanist and the geologist can find abundant data for investigation. The remains of mastodons, the relics of long perished thousands of human beings, the peculiar vegetable growths, the strange rock formations and more than a thousand other points of interest are to be found on every hand. Other features of far less interest and intrinsic value have been written of and given a world-wide notoriety, but there is no part of California that warrants closer study and investigation than this.

CALIFORNIA'S CLIMATE.

"The glorious climate of California" has, it is true, been a hackneyed subject; yet it is one which we have always with us, and which, from the time of the first explorers who committed their discoveries as well as ideas to writing, has been one of the most potent charms of the Pacific coast. The climatic peculiarities of California are the first of the many attractions which are offered to the attention of the tourist, and there are so many anomalies and apparent contradictions so many reversals of all preconceived ideas and former experience, that this is always a fruitful subject for discussion and investigation. The climate of California differs widely from that of any other portion of the United States, and in many features from that of any other part of the world. These points of variation apply to every climatic feature that can be suggested, and in every detail the contrast results advantageously for this highly favored region.

Contrast these climatic conditions with those on the eastern coast, where the rigors of winter scarcely lose their grip, when the cyclones and thunder-storms begin their work of destruction, and thousands fall from sunstroke. The majority of Californians are familiar with climatic conditions on the first day of January east of the Rocky mountains. There, north of the Gulf States the principal industry January first is to battle against the piercing cold winds and guard against freezing, while in California the air is balmy, the sky blue, and the earth is clothed in her spring-like garments. The farmer is busy plowing his fields, vegetables are being planted and harvested everywhere, the orange trees are golden with their luscious fruits, the pale green foliage of the olive is intermingled with the rich purple of its thickly clustered fruit; flower gardens are abloom with roses and geraniums, fuchsias and heliotropes; children are rolling on the grassy sward, and existence out doors is as enjoyable as during

an eastern May. When the tourist from the Eastern States crosses the Sierra Nevada, his attention is directed to the marvelous transformation that occurs.

The important fact should be borne in mind,—and one that is perhaps hardest of all to be understood,—that so far as California is concerned latitude cuts almost no figure whatever in climatic changes or differences. The climate of San Diego in the south is practically that of Crescent City on the north; there is little variation of temperature, winter or summer, between the two ends of the great interior valley, although one extreme boundary is nearly 500 miles south of the other. Coast, interior, foothill or mountain, the same law applies, and demonstrations will be given in figures compiled with the greatest care by trained observers.

Broadly speaking, the year in California is divided into but two seasons. There are none of the sharp changes that form so disagreeable a feature of the climate in other parts of the world. On the contrary the two seasons shade into each other so gradually that the change is almost imperceptible. The dry season is frequently prolonged until the so-called winter months are half gone, while the wet season sometimes reaches well into the summer months. The popular idea of the wet and the dry season, as held by those who have had no experience in such matters, is that during the one "the rain it raineth every day," while during the other there is nothing but a cloudless sky from one month's end to the other. Nothing could be further from the truth, however.

With an average rainfall varying from ten inches in the far south to thirty-six inches in the extreme north, it will appear evident to the thinking mind that a long continued down-pour is out of the question. Under ordinary conditions, a half dozen storms of three or four days' duration each, is all that California has during a year. There are some seasons, as in all other localities, when there are storms of longer duration, and a much greater precipitation, but the figures given are an average for a long series of years. "The rainy season" (better called the rain season) is not unpleasant by any means. On the contrary it is considered by many the most enjoyable portion of the year. The first storm of any importance lays the dust, cleanses the atmosphere, washes the foliage of the numerous evergreen trees of every variety and causes the earth to be covered with a blanket of grass and blossoms of a thousand varying hues. The air is balmy and invigorating, and the most beautiful day in the late spring of the Atlantic coast, rare as it is, is not more enchanting or enjoyable than the greater portion of California's "rainy season."

Let us briefly inquire into the causes which produce such a wonderful climate in California, and which are little understood, and in fact scarcely thought of, by the average individual. Perhaps the clearest statement as is possible of the causes which produce the unique climate enjoyed on the Pacific coast of North America is that furnished in an interesting paper prepared by a well-known

medical writer of Oakland, Dr. J. B. Trembley, from which we quote:

"The western coasts of Europe and North America are examples of similar climate, modified by the same corresponding causes, —ocean and air currents. Without entering into an extended inquiry over the various portions of the world in comparing climatic factors, the knowledge, positive and theoretical, of the climatic conditions that are imposed upon the western slope of the Pacific coast from Alaska toward the south, and the causes so far as observed, are all that will interest the general reader. The same general causes that modify the climate of Alaska, British Columbia, Oregon and California, extending into Mexico, have long been known to meteorologists and those who have made physical geography a study. But the many local modifying influences that these great currents of water and air meet with as they impinge upon the northwestern coast of the continent, by high mountain ranges, inland valleys and solar heat, give as various climates as the topography of the country is different where their influence is felt.

"The ocean current that modifies the climate of the Pacific coast is a portion of the great equatorial current, which is deflected northerly and easterly when it meets the eastern coast of Asia. This current, a portion of the warm equatorial current, as it flows toward the northwest, washing the eastern shores of China and Japan, takes the name of the Japan current, or Kuro Sivo. At or near latitude 50 degrees and longitude 170 degrees, it divides, one portion, continuing northerly, passes through Behring strait; the other, south of the Aleutian islands, assumes the name of the Aleutian current. It advances eastward until it strikes the northwest coast of North America, then turning acutely to the southeast, flowing along the western shore, until what is left is drawn into the great equatorial current at or near the Tropic of Cancer, again to make the current of nearly a quarter of the hemisphere. Various elements of this great current, when taken into consideration, that go to make it one of the physical constituents in the formation of climate, seems as yet but partially understood. Its depth, width, velocity and temperature have not been investigated as have some of the currents of the Atlantic ocean.

"Professor Davidson of San Francisco seems to have been almost the only one who has given this subject any attention, with the exception of some few casual observers, who have here and there made memoranda for their own curiosity. The professor starts with a maximum temperature of the Japan current of 88 degrees Fahrenheit; at Alaska, 50.06 degrees, 600 to 800 miles west from San Francisco, 60.33 degrees; 100 miles west, 55.05 degrees. At the tidal station at Fort Point the mean temperature for eight years was 55.66 degrees, that of the air being 54.97 degrees. The temperature of the ocean 900 miles west of San Francisco for one year was 60.52 degrees as found by the ocean steamers going and coming from Yokohama to San Francisco.

"This shows a difference of temperature between the water of the ocean current 100

miles to the west and at the tidal station on shore to be 61 degrees less here; at 600 to 800 miles, 4.67 degrees greater; at 900 miles. 4.86 degrees greater or warmer. The great ocean current in flowing from its origin to the coast of California has parted with 32.34 degrees of heat; or, in other words, has lost, from the average temperature of the equatorial waters (78 degrees), 22.34 degrees, and leaves an average surface ocean temperature, to the distance of 900 miles west of California, of 57.89 degrees. The temperature of the air along the coast, and the water, hardly ever rises more than two or three degrees, and the above figures show only 2.92 degrees for the average difference in temperature of the water and air over a large area of the ocean contiguous to the Pacific coast, and give an explanation of the low temperature at the base of the atmospherical column that rests on the ocean's water. Also the great freedom from rain during the summer months, when the westerly winds overcast, and fogs prevail.

"The great aerial current that moves with the ocean stream, is the counter trade wind of the northern hemisphere, and seems to determine the character of the climate of California almost wholly. As it strikes the Pacific coast, it is always the high current, and flowing from a westerly direction changing but very little the point of the compass at the same date of time in each year. It oscillates from the south of west at one portion of the year to the north of west at another, moving from north to south with the declination of the sun, and then back again. During the summer season it blows nearly from the west, and in the winter, being acted on by the polar winds, is given a more northwesterly direction.

"Physical geography so well describes the great systems of atmospherical currents that it is superfluous to enter into a description of all the winds and the laws that produce them. Owing to solar heat and the diurnal motion of the earth three distinct belts or systems of winds are produced,—easterly winds in the tropical zone, westerly winds in the temperate zone and northerly or northwesterly in the higher latitudes. These zones of wind move bodily to and fro with the vertical rays of the sun, toward the north in summer and toward the south in winter. On the movement of these zones of water and air rest the causes of the wet and dry seasons over the great area of country bordering on the western coast of the United States.

"The causes of the principal climatic phenomena of California having thus been set forth at length, it remains to give some attention to certain peculiarities in other directions which are noteworthy. One of these is the periodical prevalence of what is known as 'northers,' and which are one of the most unpleasant climatic features known on the Pacific coast, though, as will be shown, possessing many compensating advantages. All parts of California, but more especially the vast interior valleys, are periodically subjected to winds from the north, which at times are of great violence and become decidedly uncomfortable. These wind-storms are caused by the intense heat which prevails

in these valleys, by which the air is rarefied, ascends, and thus creates a vacuum. The cool air from the north at once rushes in to restore the equilibrium, while the heat in the soil creeps northward until the whole surface of the valley becomes heated, thus creating a practical vacuum 450 miles long, with an average width of forty-five miles. Then from the north the cold air rushes in in increasing volume, and the norther thus created sweeps down the valley. Opposite the Golden Gate the cool air is drawn in from the bay and ocean, and again the norther rushes down the valley. Reaching the lower end it leaps the mountain barrier and traverses the desert. Here it gathers up vast quantities of sand and dust of an almost impalpable character, and with the accumulated heat pours over the mountains again into the lower valleys. Warning is always given to the people of that section of the approach of a norther or sandstorm, by a peculiar brazen tinge of the atmosphere for a day or more beforehand, caused by the quantities of dust held in suspension. The north wind produces violent electrical disturbances, the exact cause of which is hardly known, though the effects are familiar to all. All animal life suffer alike. There seems to be a general lowering of vitality, headache is prevalent and a lassitude and indisposition to exertion is common. When the norther is of an unusually high temper vegetation of all kinds suffers. Fruit has been known to be actually roasted and fall from the tree, while grain and grass wither and dry up. Damage, however, only takes place when the wind is exceptionably high and of long continuance.

"On the other hand the unpleasant features of these winds are well balanced by their beneficial effects in more than one direction. Without them the climate of the interior valleys would be humid, moist and oppressively tropical. Vegetation would be rapid and the soil would be quickly covered with an excessive and unhealthy growth. The north wind by its desiccatory power destroys the germs of disease caused by vegetable decay and prevents malaria and other sickness. Fevers disappear before its coming, and invalids suffering from various diseases find themselves better. The fungi that attack vegetable growth where there is superabundance of moisture are almost unknown where the northers occasionally prevail, and in a word the unpleasant momentary effects of the high wind are more than counterbalanced by the lasting benefits conferred by it.

"There is still another peculiarity connected with California climate which is exceedingly difficult to understand, and the causes of which are even yet not fully demonstrated. The fact that the earliest fruits come from the central and northern part of the State is one of those apparent anomalies which are difficult of comprehension to the stranger. It seems like a reversal of the laws of nature to find vegetation of any kind maturing at an earlier date in the north than in the south. Yet such is an indisputable fact, remarkable though it seems. There are two well-defined and widely separated 'early-fruit regions' in the State, and they are so far apart that it must be evident that different causes

produce the same result. In Solano county, a short distance north of San Francisco, is the Vaca valley, with its tributaries, or neighbors, Pleasant and Capay valleys. In these localities every variety of deciduous fruit ripens long before it does at points 500 miles further south. Cherries, apricots, peaches, plums, grapes, etc., are in readiness for market here several weeks in advance of any locality to the south. A similar singular state of facts is found in the foothills of Placer county and contiguous localities, where fruits ripen practically at the same time as in the Solano county valleys mentioned. Sometimes there is a difference of a day or two between those localities, but for years the earliest fruits have been produced there, maturity being attained so nearly at the same time that both are practically alike. The explanation of this early maturing lies unquestionably in the existence of some phenomena that cause the nights of early spring to be uniformly warmer in these early fruit districts than elsewhere.

"The days are certainly no warmer, as is shown by the records of thermometrical observation. But that the nights are warmer and vegetation is thus assisted is a fact, whatever the natural cause may be. There is a variety of explanation for this singular state of facts, such as the sheltered character of the localities where the early fruits mature, etc., but there are many other spots which apparently are fully as well protected, but without the faculty of hastening early maturity. Whatever may be the exact cause, however, the remarkable fact remains that the earliest fruit region is found north of the central line of the State.

"Hundreds of pages could be written of this wonderful State, and yet the half would not be told; its undeveloped resources are beyond conception, and are just now beginning to attract attention. Twenty-five years hence this Golden State will be the Empire State of the Union, as it is verily an empire within itself."

For convenience as a ready reference we give some important figures:

FACTS WORTH KNOWING ABOUT CALIFORNIA.

California is the second largest State in the Union; area, 157,801 square miles.

She is the leading State in the value of gold product. Total value of gold and silver produced since 1848, $1,367,450,000.

It is the most diversified agricultural State in the Union. Produces more wine and honey than any other State, and is the only State producing raisins. It is the only State in which the olive thrives, and is the home of the orange and the fig. It is the leading producer of almonds, walnuts, etc., and justly claims the finest climate as well as the largest trees in the world. She has the largest per capita wealth of all States in the Union, and has the third commercial city, San Francisco.

Value of mineral products in 1890, $23,850,000.

Population in 1880, 864,690; in 1890, 1,205,391.

Ranked twenty-second in population in 1890. Ranked sixteenth in percentage of growth from 1880 to 1890. Percentage of

increase of population, 39.25. Percentage of increase of voters, 55.75.

Assessed value of property in 1880, $666,-183,320; in 1890, $1,060,390, 296. Deposits in savings banks, 1890, $98,442,000; increase over 1889, $11,430,000. Deposits in commercial banks, 1890, $42,321,000; increase over 1889, $1,869,000. Total deposits in all banks, 1890, $171,229,531. Value of manufactured products, 1880, $116,218,000; in 1890, $165,000,000.

Miles of railroad in the State, 4,500; assessed valuation, $40,248,000.

Area arable land, 38,000,000 acres; cultivated, 2,500,000 acres; forests, 20,000,000 acres. Area wine and raisin-grape vineyards, 225,000 acres. Capital invested in vineyards, $80,000,000.

Wine product for 1890, 18,200,000 gallons; dried wine grapes, 9,000,000 pounds. Raisin output for the year, 2,000,000 boxes, or 40,000,000 pounds. Green fruit sshipped East in 1880, 5,180,000 pounds; in 1890, 105,000,000 pounds. Dried fruits shipped East in 1880, 590,000 pounds; in 1890, 66,-318,000 pounds. Value of cereal, hay and root crops in 1890, $70,000,000 Oranges shipped East, 1889–'90, 3,187 car-loads; crop, 1890–'91, 4,000 car-loads.

Number of farm animals in the State, 6,063,440; total value, $57,771,280. Bean crop, 1890, 1,000,000 centals. Honey product for 1890, 6,000,000 pounds. Average annual wool product, 35,000,000 pounds. Average annual barley product, 16,000,000 bushels. Hops consumed and shipped, 40,-000 bales. Wheat crop, 1890, 27,000,000 centals; exports, 13,266,409 centals, valued at $17,600,000. Flour exported in 1890, 1,201,-304 barrels, valued at $4,899,000.

Public school expenditures in 1890, $5,-119,096; increase over 1889, $1,057,779. Number of children attending school in 1890, 198,960. Securities in school fund, 1890, $3,268,350. Total value of school property, 1890, $13,624,143; increase since 1888, $3,-060,363.

"WONDERFUL."

The reader who has not traveled over California, spent months in various portions of the State, and noted the wonderful products, may question our term, "wonderful," as applied to the golden member of the great American Union. We will therefore itemize a few among the many just grounds we have for calling California "wonderful."

The width of the State on the north end is 216 miles; extreme extension from west to east, 352 miles; average width about 235 miles; extension from north to south, 655 miles. A direct line from the northwest corner of the State to Fort Yuma, being the longest line in the State, is 830 miles; a direct line from San Francisco to Los Angeles is 342 miles; from San Francisco to San Diego, 451 miles. San Diego lies 350 miles south and 285 miles east of San Francisco. Los Angeles lies 258 miles south and 225 miles east of San Francisco. Cape Mendocino, the most westerly point in the State, is ninety-six miles west and 185 miles north of San Francisco.

California has an area of 157,801 square miles, or 100,992,640 acres, of which 80,-

000,000 acres are suited to some kind of profitable husbandry. It is three and one-half times as large as the State of New York, which according to the census of 1890 has a population of 5,981,934. California will make five States the size of Kentucky, which has a population of 1,855,436. It will make twenty-four States the size of Massachusetts, which has a population of 2,233,407. It has an area 144 times as great as Rhode Island. It is four-fifths the size of Austria, and nearly as large as France, each having a population of more than 36,000,000. It is nearly double the size of Italy, which has a population of more than 27,000,000; and it is one and one-half times greater than Great Britain and Ireland, having a population of more than 32,000,000. California's areas of climate, salubriousness and degrees of temperature, as well as the general proportions thereof, are in striking contrast to the area and fertility of her soil.

She has the largest valley in the world; and when we make this assertion we mean to define a valley by boundaries of hills or mountains, and not as extensive plains bordering on immense streams, such as the vast expanse of level land along the Mississippi river, or the great body of low lands along the Amazon river in South America. The valley wonder of California we will reserve for special treatise further on in this work.

California has the highest elevation of land in the United States, the grandest mountain scenery in America, and not surpassed, if equaled by any in the world. She has a longer range of mountain heights, extending up into the regions of perpetual snow, than has any country of like area in the United States. She has some of the most beautiful, grand and picturesque valleys on earth. She has the wonder of the world in timber growth, the mighty Sequoia or redwood trees, some of which are thirty-six feet in diameter, and tower heavenward all of 400 feet. California has more of the valuable metals than any other like area of earth now known to man.

California has a greater variety of and a better climate than all other countries combined. The statement as to climate is difficult to define or explain. The writer desires to be understood as desiring to convey the idea of the wonderful variety of climate, difference of temperature, etc., to be found within a radius of a few miles from a given point, and the peculiar sensation produced by the approaching shades of evening following the warm, sunny day. And here it is in place to state that California has more bright, delightful days than any other State in the Union.

She can also boast of a greater share of seacoast line than can any other State. She produces nearly all kinds of fruits and vegetables that other States produce, and a great many which others cannot. She can point with pride to the best wheat produced in the world. She also possesses the two largest observatories in the world. There is but one California in all the world, and the world is beginning to recognize that fact.

The above statements were made by the late Governor Waterman, a few years since, and thousands can testify that he was right.

There is but one California in the whole world, and so far as the western hemisphere is concerned there is no other State or country at all like or comparable with it. That we may not be accused of speaking in an unduly boastful manner of California, at the outset we will concede that other States and other countries in the western world may possess certain points of superiority over California, yet the fact remains the same,—that California is at least unlike any other country under the sun.

In point of geographical extent California is a great State. The area and proportions as to other States and countries having been stated, we will further say that California is a hill country, so that not all of her vast area can be classed as arable until such time as her population shall press upon her productive powers for their sustenance much harder than they are likely to for some generations to come; but in time there is little doubt that even her steep mountain sides will be called upon to contribute their share to the sustenance of the State's great family, and will respond more generously than people now deem possible. Were one to ascend Mount Hamilton, and set the great Lick telescope to a terrestrial rather than to a celestial gaze, and with it survey the State from Shasta to San Diego, he would perceive that of a truth California is a hilly country. The State is deeply cleft longitudinally by its great interior valley, the valley of the Sacramento sweeping grandly northward to that of Shasta's feet, and that of the San Joaquin southward to Tehachapi. All else seen by the observer would be mountains, though many broad and fertile valleys lie hidden between them—mountains arranged in mighty chains, in scattered groups, detached spurs, and lone sentinels; mountains piled peak upon peak, until their snowy summits pierce heaven's dome; and mountains decapitated and leveled off into arable plateaus; rock-ribbed mountains ragged and desolate as icebergs, and mountains whose outlines are curved as gracefully as the rainbow and whose sides are clad in a vesture reflecting all the rainbow's colors.

In beauty and grandeur of natural scenery California is not excelled by any country in the world. Her waterfalls are highest; her mountain valleys are cut deepest; her lakes, though small, are gems of purest ray placed in most gorgeous settings; her precipices are most abrupt and present largest surfaces to the view.

Nor are her climatic conditions less varied than her scenery. She has within her borders all the climates of the five zones, and often within plain view of each other. Her thermal belts are frostless, her valleys temperate, her deserts torrid and her mountain summits are wrapped in perpetual snow. She has large areas as rainless as Egypt, and other sections where the rain is measured by the foot rather than by the inch. In portions of the State snow is never seen nearer than the distant mountain-tops, while in other parts only the tops of the trees are visible above the downy covering.

But it is not in her great geographical extent, nor yet in her most varied and pictur-

esque scenery, that California takes most pride. She is prouder of her great diversity of climatic conditions and the corresponding diversity of production which her climate permits. What Italy and Switzerland are to Europe, and more, California will be to the Western world. Her mission is that of a ministering angel to all her sister States; she will heal their sick, supply their tables with all the choicest delicacies of all climates and seasons; she will become the pleasure grounds of the nation and the sanitarium of the world. Busy men, their tasks completed, will fly to California to spend in stormless peace their declining years. Students will seek her salubrious climate to study, artists to gather inspirations, and poets to sing their sweetest songs.

The world demands of each community that of those commodities which are the most needful, each shall produce what it can produce best, and commerce is legitimate only when it effects an interchange of such commodities as may be produced with advantage for such as may not. Other States can produce pork, beef, mutton, wool, as well, perhaps, as California; but where within the Union, if not from California, are her sister States to get their supplies of peaches, prunes, pears, grapes, raisins, almonds, oranges, lemons, limes, figs, pomegranates and olives? North America furnishes no rival to California in the production of all these delicacies. She has an easy, natural, legitimate monopoly of them all. Thus it is that the world shall demand these things of her, and her supply will ever be equal to the demand. She must first have her large grant ranches divided and subdivided into small tracts, owned by enterprising, industrious workers, who will drive out from their midst the drones who toil not but consume the substance of the industrious. She must have her many valleys, hillsides and mesas settled upon, planted and cultivated; and when all this is done and well done, California will have become the Empire State of the nation. This state of affairs will not be long in coming, for "there is but one California in all the world, and the world is beginning to recognize that fact."

What is the secret of the undeniable, almost indescribable, fascination which is exercised by California upon every one who comes within the reach of her influence? The permanent resident and the transient visitor alike are subject to that mysterious enchantment. Why is it that scarcely an individual who remains here a year can be persuaded to shake off the glamour which insensibly steals over him, and return to his old home? Why is it that, no matter how strong may be the affection once felt for the home of their childhood, all that sentiment intensified tenfold is transferred to this far Western land, and that the feeling of loyalty to their adopted home outweighs all national or sectional feeling in the hearts of the people of this State and makes them above all else Californians?

Here is gathered a more cosmopolitan population than can be found in any other part of the world. Every State in the Union is here represented. Every province in British America; every one of the Central and South American countries; every country in

Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and the uttermost isles of the sea, is represented,—American and Englishman, German and Frenchman, Greek and Russian, Spaniard and Portugese, Italian and Austrian, Hungarian and Pole, Dane and Swede, Armenian and Slavonian, Alaskan and Mexican, Canadian and Brazilian, Chilean and Sonorian, Hawaiian and Samoan, Chinese and Japanese, Malay and Indian, Persian and Arabian, —white, black, red and yellow, and all the intermingling shades,—all live here side by side, and all are imbued with the same common sentiment which makes them Californians, no matter from what source they originally have sprung. That such a conglomerate mass from all nations of the earth should live contentedly here in the closest juxtaposition speaks marvelously well, both for the laws and institutions of the country as well as for the attractions of this particular portion of the universe. With the single exception of the Chinese, few of these people, after having passed a year here, can be persuaded to return to their old homes. They may have come in the first place with the intention of remaining but a short time, but as the years roll round the sentiment of affection grows stronger and stronger, until finally nothing but the scythe of the Reaper proves sufficient to sever the ties that have become so powerful. Occasionally, it is true, the memories of old home become so strong that one returns thither, filled with the determination to remain, but a short stay is usually sufficient, and almost before his absence has been noted he is back again. "California is good enough for me," is the universal conclusion of every one who has lived here for any length of time, and who is by any means persuaded to pay a visit to his previous home, no matter in what part of the world it may be.

While in other portions of the United States there is a constant change in progress, a continual going and coming, a departure of discouraged people for other localities, and an arrival of those who hope to be satisfied: nothing of the sort is seen here, so far at least as regards the old settlers. Since the subsidence of the gold-mining excitement, in the days when men came to the State simply to "make their pile" and get home as quickly as possible, there has been practically no emigration of people who have once settled here. Let the reader, if he be an old Californian, cast about in his circle of acquaintances and note how few, if any, have ever gone back East and remained there. It is no doubt true that such instances do occasionally occur, but in the majority of cases a single winter's experience has been sufficient to drive them back to the Pacific coast. As a rule, people who remain in California for a year remain for a lifetime. They are never so well satisfied anywhere else. Having once fallen under the influence of the climate, the scenery, the manners and customs of California, they feel lost anywhere else, and are unable to accommodate themselves to other circumstances.

For the person who never has had the good fortune to visit the Pacific coast, California has, too, a charm of a forceful though perhaps indefinable character. Such was the

case with the writer previous to coming to California. From the time the first Americans crossed the plains or sailed around the Horn and returned with their marvelous tales of the sunny land, there has been a glamour cast over the very name of California which has caused hundreds of thousands to look this way with longing eyes and to regard a trip hither as the consummation of one of their warmest desires. The stories of the early explorers, the journals of Fremont and his contemporaries, the experience of the gold-hunters, told in book, magazine and newspaper, in prose and poetry; the quaint records of the missions; the marvelous discoveries of scenery the grandest the world knows; the genial climate without a parallel elsewhere; the wonderful development of resources shown in the fact that California is rapidly becoming the orchard and the vineyard of the world,—all these and numerous other reasons have given to the State an attractiveness that is felt the world over, and is well nigh irresistible to any one who has been so fortunate as to have been placed within its influence.

While acknowledging the strength of the fascination which California exerts upon all within her reach, few seem to consider of what that influence is composed. Each individual has his own idea on the subject, and the feature that appeals most strongly to the individual imagination becomes in his opinion the principal claim to distinction. Each writer follows his own particular bent, and too frequently in so doing is led away by enthusiasm and by those features which appeal most strongly to him, and so does not do justice to other particulars which to the impartial judge are fully as deserving of notice. Another difficulty is that a great portion of the information furnished for Eastern and foreign readers is the work of visitors who pass at the most but a few months in the State, hastily skim over the surface, visiting a few of the principal cities and towns on the main line of railroad, and then set down their necessarily superficial observations as indisputable facts. If there is any part of the world more than another which needs persistent study and investigation in order to acquire perfect knowledge concerning all its salient features, that part is certainly California.

It is a region of contradictions. Two perfectly impartial travelers may traverse the State and faithfully report their experience and impressions, yet one would never for a moment suspect that they were both writing of the same country, so entirely different in every detail would be their statements. Thus, one might write of California as a region of snow and ice. He might with perfect truth tell of railroads inclosed for miles with massive structures which resemble tunnels dug through the snow. He might with equal propriety and truthfulness tell of two-story buildings so completely hidden by snow that their very existence would not be apparent to the stranger. He could tell of snow-slides which have wiped towns out of existence, by the side of which the avalanche of the Alps sinks into insignificance. He could with truth complain of railroad

travel suspended for weeks despite all the efforts of thousands of men, aided by the best and most powerful steam machinery known to modern ingenuity. He could, in fact, draw such a picture of arctic California as would make even an Esquimau shudder. On the other hand, another traveler, writing upon the self-same day, could with equal truth tell of a journey in which the utmost discomfort was suffered from heat and thirst. He could tell of traveling vast stretches where the quivering heat actually sears the eyeballs, where the water supply becomes lower and lower, until exhausted; where one would give his right arm for but a single draught of the precious fluid, and where, failing it, more than one poor wretch has either lain down to die or has had the nerve to place the muzzle of a pistol to his tortured brain and pull the trigger that released him from the burning torture. And still another traveler might on the same day write truthfully and give the reader a pen-picture of the most sublime region and clime ever invaded by man. He could tell of hill and plain carpeted with the most lovely flowers that the eye ever rested upon; billows of gold and blue, pink and white, stretching in every direction; also of orange groves, their dark green foliage intermingled with the golden fruit—golden in a double sense; the atmosphere heavy with the odor of blossoms, the drone of bees humming in his ears. He might, indeed, with truth claim to have found Tennyson's "Land of the Afternoon" realized in every detail.

Contradictory as all this may sound, nevertheless it might all be written with equal truth at one and the same time. Indeed, these seeming impossibilities and contradictions might be carried much further, until the reader were entangled in a mass of apparent paradoxes absolutely appalling. It is from this fact of so many having written about California from a single standpoint, and because there is such a vast amount of new information afloat upon the subject, that we propose to consider the various attractions of the State and to treat each as fairly, dispassionately and fully as the space in this volume will permit. This brief description is not from the hands of a casual traveler, with an acquaintance of a few months at the most, but rather from one who has for many years studied every feature of this wonderful State; and who is thoroughly familiar with it from the Mexican to the Oregon line, and from the ocean sands to the eastern slope of the Sierra; who has no feeling of prejudice for one section more than another, but whose love for California as a whole is as warm as such a sentiment can possibly be. Whether the task shall have been faithfully performed the reader must judge. One thing may be accepted as certain, namely, that no statements are made, no matter how startling or apparently contradictory, that are not susceptible of the most ample demonstration. Many things will possibly appear to the uninitiated like reversals of what are supposed to be the immutable laws of nature. Yet the accuracy of these statements will be conceded by all the old Californians and those acquainted with the facts. The sole purpose

here is to give the truth, and nothing but the truth, devoid of exaggeration in every detail. No friend of California need fear the facts or desire to suppress any of them. California is so far superior to any other part of the world that the worst of her drawbacks become almost advantages, and indeed in many instances they are truthfully so, as we will endeavor to show.

The attractions of California are of a varied character. Whether one touches the history, the climate, the scenery, or the development by artificial means, he finds so much to admire and wonder at that it requires a long period of investigation and familiarity before an adequate conception can be formed of their real immensity. The historical features of the State have been so fully dealt with by many able writers that little is left to be said. Yet we will draw from the many, at the same time realizing that there are certain phases of this feature of attractions that are of the highest interest, because too frequently neglected. What may be called the prehistoric history of this State affords rare opportunities for study,—opportunities that are all too much neglected, and are indeed rapidly passing away. The rock inscriptions of the coast, the Sierra and the desert should be transcribed, and so far as possible translated. That they were made with a definite purpose and have a distinctive meaning, no one who has seen them can doubt. George W. Stewart, a promising young writer, editor of the *Delta*, at Visalia, Tulare county, is deeply interested in preserving the above historic matter, and is now engaged in gathering such inscriptions as his time will permit. The cliff dwellings and mounds of the desert and of the grand cañon of the Colorado are certainly worthy of investigation, while in the folk-lore and traditions of the remnants of the Indian tribes which once densely populated the coast there is a mine of investigation of unsurpassed interest of which, if much longer delayed, all traces will be obliterated, for soon the last of the aborigines will have passed away. The origin of those tribes themselves opens another broad field. Types can be selected from the Indian tribes and from the Chinese residents of this coast which, placed side by side, are so similar in every respect as to be startling. Notably is this so with the Indians of southern California. Individuals can be found in those tribes, who, except for peculiarities of dress and mode of wearing their hair, resemble in every feature the Chinese, while on the other hand Chinese are frequently seen who compare in every detail of feature with the Indians. Yet with all this racial resemblance, no more cordial and reciprocal hatred can be conceived than that which exists between the two peoples.

But it is not the purpose of this work to go into the historical attractions of California, numerous and interesting though they be. The climate, scenery and notable physical characteristics of the State, are all we can take under consideration here, and only the most salient features thereof attempted. Many of the leading features are widely known, and therefore we will give more detail to some not so well understood. The unbeaten

paths will be necessarily followed to some extent, and an effort made to show that there are many attractive features which are as yet unknown, or familiar to but few at most.

THE ARGONAUTS.

During the period of gold excitement, men came hither from every portion of the known world; but come from wheresoever they might, they had to learn life over again. The experience of other climes availed them little, for here they found new conditions of soil, of climate, and of production, totally at variance with all that they had ever before met with or heard of. Consequently it is not to be wondered at, that the Argonauts were slow in developing and bringing into prominence other than the mining resources of the State.

And even now, after forty years have come and gone, it may be frankly admitted that what has been accomplished in other fields of enterprise scarcely more than suffices to reveal to the more far-seeing the limitless possibilities of the future. The Argonautic era has passed. The forty years' sojourn in the wilderness has practically ended. Californians have found, and are now rejoicing in, the promised land, and have entered into their inheritance; and right busy are they now, planting their vines and fig trees, and making for themselves such homes as are possible in no other land.

But it should not be thought that all the years spent in the wilderness of California's early history were joyless or profitless. Once setting foot on the soil of California, the Argonauts encountered no such hardships as did the Pilgrim fathers, the Jamestown colonists, the pioneers of the interior "West," or those later but equally resolute and patriotic heroes who shouldered their rifles and went into the Territory of Kansas to prevent slavery from obtaining a foothold there. True, the journey across the plains was wearisome, and not without its dangers, and the voyage around Cape Horn or by way of the Isthmus was not looked upon as a pleasure trip; but once upon the western slope of the Sierras, the pioneers' hardships were ended. They found themselves in what seemed a perpetual summer land. No rigors of climate were to be contended with, no forests were to be cleared away before planting, no incorrigible prairie sod was to be pounded into subordination; and no insidious miasmas stole upon him from swamps or morasses to strike him down unawares. Even the primitive savage dwelt with him in comparative harmony, and forbore to lift his scalp except upon extraordinary occasions, while the pioneers of other States were forever at war with the red men.

Moreover, the pioneers of other States gave up all they held dearest and went into the wilderness in search of liberty, of homes for those dependent upon them, or waged war against savage elements, and more savage men, for the sake of some principle for which, if need be, they were willing to lay down their lives. The Argonauts were in search of gold, and for gold only. Their highest ambition was to make their "pile," go back to the "States," and live like lords, the envy perhaps of less enterprising neighbors.

We are not disposed to speak disparagingly of the "Forty-niners." On the contrary we will say that it may go down to coming generations that no more hardy, resolute, or capable set of men than they figure in the history of any country; there was no obstacle too great for them to surmount. They revolutionized the mining industry of the world, created a new department of jurisprudence, made rivers to flow backward, leveled down mountains, and burrowed so far into the interior of the earth that the hiss and roar of the infernal regions resounded through their tunnels. Granting that all this was done for the love of gold, do not the human race the world over seek it just as madly in divers ways? and what they sought they found, and the pity is that all who found did not keep what they found, for many who, to use a mining phrase, "struck it rich," ventured again, lost, and lived and died poor.

But it was characteristic of the Forty-niner never to give up, never complain, never abandon hope, always looking hopefully to the morrow, confident that a fortune was in store for him; never complaining of ill luck, nor abandoning his quest until death took him off the track. The world is, and especially are the people of California, much better and richer for the Argonauts' having lived. Columbus, while seeking a western passage to the East Indies, blundered upon a continent, for which the world will never cease to sing him praises, and yet Columbus failed to find that which he sought. So that the California Argonauts, though more fortunate than Columbus, inasmuch as they did find gold, trebling the world's product of that precious commodity, also "builded better than they knew." They not only made their country rich enough to destroy human slavery, and to form a yet "more perfect union," but they gave to the greatest nation on the globe what will yet become the greatest, most populous, richest and happiest commonwealth in that nation. And should the mere fact that such was not their aim detract from their fame more than from that of Columbus or other fortunate blunderers into worldly fame?

THE GREAT SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY.

THE GREAT GRAIN REGION.

AS the San Joaquin river is the only stream conveying the waters of this great valley to the ocean, it will be of interest to learn something in regard to its discovery as well as the origin of its name.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME "SAN JOAQUIN."

From the report of General M. G. Vallejo to the State Senate in 1852, on the "Origin of the Names of Counties in this State," we find the following: "San Joaquin:—The meaning of this name has a very ancient origin, in reference to the parentage of Mary, the mother of Christ." According to divine revelations, Joachim signifies "preparation of the Lord," and hence the belief that Joaquin, who in the course of time was admitted into the pale of sanctity, was the father of Mary. In 1813, commanding an exploring expedition to the valley of the rushes (Valle de los Tules), Lieutenant Gabriel Moraga gave the appellation of San Joaquin to a rivulet that has its source in the Sierra Nevada, and empties into lake Buena Vista; and the river San Joaquin is said to have derived its name from this rivulet. Father Crespi, a priest in charge of an exploring expedition sent out by the mission on the 30th of March, 1773, discovered the mouth of the San Joaquin, at a point about where Antioch now is, and was probably the first representative white person who ever saw the river and the great valley which it drains.

Captain Juan Bautisto Anza was sent to examine the port of San Francisco and ascertain whether it could be really entered by a channel or mouth which had been seen from the land. This great problem was satisfactorily solved by the San Carlos, a ship of perhaps 200 tons, in the month of June, 1775. When she entered they reported that they had found a land-locked sea, with two arms, one making into the interior about fifteen leagues to the southeast, the other three, four, or perhaps five leagues to the north, where there was a large bay about ten leagues

across and of a round figure, into which emptied the great river of our Father San Francisco (this is the Sacramento), which was fed by five other rivers, all of them copious streams flowing through a plain so wide that it was bounded only by the horizon, and meeting to form the said great river; and all this immensity of water discharging itself into the Pacific ocean, which is there called the gulf of the Farallones. This very striking description was accurate enough for the purpose of that day; and as soon as Anza and his people had arrived, and Anza in person had gone up and selected the site, a party was sent out by land and another by sea to establish the presidio and mission of San Francisco. The date of the foundation of the presidio was the 17th of September, and that of the mission the 9th of October, 1776.

After the presidio and before the mission was established, an exploration of the interior was planned, and as usual by both land and sea. Point San Pablo was given as the rendezvous; but the captain of the presidio, who undertook in person to lead the land party, failed to appear there, having, with the design to shorten the distance, entered a cañada near the head of the bay, which took him over to the San Joaquin river. So he discovered that stream.

Whether or not the "Captain of the Presidio" above referred to, was Captain Anza, we are not sure; but from the best sources of information we are of the opinion that he was, and that to him belongs the honor of discovering and naming the San Joaquin river. It is at any rate certain that the San Joaquin was discovered and named between the 17th of September and the 9th of October, 1776, or a little more than two months after the declaration of the independence of the United States.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

We will first consider the San Joaquin valley as extending from the Cosumnes river 260 miles south to the Tehachapi mountains, and with an average width as previously stated this constitutes about three-fifths of the area of the whole basin. This southern half of the great plain is subdivided into the San Joaquin and Tulare valleys, although the latter is practically a continuation of the former. It is proper here to define our understanding as to what constitutes a valley, and thus establish as well as define our position as to the great interior basin being one valley. It will certainly be conceded that a valley is a comparatively level body of land surrounded, or bounded, by higher lands, hills or mountain ranges. Assuming that this is admitted, we will state further that there is no perceptible elevation marking the line between the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys; neither is there an elevation to mark the divide so as to establish the Tulare valley claim. The subdivisions admitted are marked and defined by the Sacramento river in the north central portion of the valley; and the same will apply to the San Joaquin river where the Southern Pacific railroad crosses that stream near the Fresno and Tulare county line; and the Kern valley claim may likewise be defined by the Kern

river, which crosses the plains near Bakersfield en route to Kern lake.

Having briefly defined our position, we will resume our valley rambles, and proceed by saying that this great valley is situated between two parallel mountain chains extending in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction, through a great part of the State—the Sierra Nevada, on the east, attaining their highest point in Tulare county, in the lofty peak of Mount Whitney, rising to an altitude of 15,056 feet above sea level, from which the summit line slopes gradually both to the north and south, and the Coast Range, on the west side, having an average height of less than 2,000 feet.

The valley consists of two plains of unequal width extending from the foothills of the mountains, and meeting in a trough, not midway, but considerably west of the center line of the great depression. This trough, extending from one end of the valley to the other, has a general inclination in a northwesterly direction toward the outlet for all drainage waters of this great basin, Suisun bay. Its slope is not uniform, but flattens out at intervals where lakes and marshes exist, as the streams flowing in on either side have banked up the silt and detritus washed from the mountains at special points for ages past. In this manner Kern river, sweeping down enormous volumes of decomposed granite, has spread out a broad barrier across the valley, including a basin above it for the reception of the waters forming Kern and Buena Vista lakes, at the southern extremity of the trough; and King's river, carrying its load of sand and silt to the lowest part of the valley, has raised a dam across the depression, and completed the shallow basis where now exists Tulare lake, one of the largest sheets of fresh water in California. The general conformation of the valley favors the opinion that this trough once held the bed of a continuous stream from Kern river, extending the entire length of the valley and receiving the tributaries flowing in on either side. As it now is, the depression serves as the drainage way for all the valley, however impeded may be its course.

From Kern and Buena Vista lakes, which occupy the same level in the lowest depression of the southern end, and are at an elevation of about 293 feet above low tide, it slopes at the rate of about two feet per mile for forty-two miles to Tulare lake, whose elevation is 198 to 210 feet, according to the stage of its waters. Thence to the mouth of Fresno slough at the great bend of the San Joaquin, fifty-five miles from the lake, the slope is eighty-six hundredths of a foot per mile. The total fall from this point to the mouth of the San Joaquin river, a distance of 120 miles, is 165 feet.

GEOLOGY OF THE VALLEY.

The geology of this great valley is a wonderful study. The student will here find ample field for investigation, and volumes could be written thereon and yet not begin to exhaust the subject.

As yet writers are left in a measure to their various ideas and speculations as to the time when this great valley was made, and as to the exact causes which culminated in prepar-

ing this fertile region for man's habitation. The general topography and geological features of this valley leave no doubt upon the mind of the average man that it has been in some remote period an inland sea, whose waters have for ages received the wash and wear of the surrounding mountains until at the lowest depression deposits of diluvium thousands of feet deep have been made, which have been builded upon by vegetable matter and soils formed by the recedence of the waters. The foothills bear traces of having been worn by some mighty stream, and are covered by the decomposed granite, gravel, lava and humus of ages. From their base the land gently descends and does not lose the volcanic appearance of the soil until it reaches the general level of the plains. The richness of the soil of this great valley is undoubtedly due to the glacial period. The soil is seemingly made from the granite rocks and lava, ground into a paste by the glaciers in the mountains and passed down into the great inland sea by other glaciers, and great bodies of water seeking a common level.

John Muir says of the Sierras: They are everywhere marked and adorned with characteristic sculptures of the ancient glaciers that swept over this entire region like one vast ice-wind, and the polished surface produced by the ponderous flood are still so perfectly preserved that in many places the sunlight reflected from them is about as trying to the eyes as sheets of snow. While nature's great glacial mills have ground slowly, they have here ground exceedingly fine, and have been kept grinding long enough to prepare soil for any alpine crop. Most of the soil has been borne to the low lands, where man can plant and till it, leaving the high regions generally bare and uninviting.

Less than 3,000 feet above the summit of Mount Ritter, we find tributaries of the San Joaquin and Owens rivers bursting forth from the eternal ice and snow of the glaciers that line its flanks; while a little to the north are found the highest affluents of the Tuolumne and Merced. Here we find the fountains of four of California's principal rivers within a radius of a few miles.

When nature was preparing the great American continent for man's habitation—first by the ordeal of fire, as shown by volcanic action which heaved to the surface all minerals for man's convenience and use,—then came a time demanding a radical change to grind down the mighty mountains and prepare a soil upon which man could produce vegetation to sustain life. Then came the period of ice, when the mighty glaciers from New England to the shores of the great Pacific ocean were put to grinding and planing away the stupendous mountain ranges stretching away across the continent, when the high lands about the sources of the great Mississippi were being planed down and the debris carried down to form the great valley along the stream to the Gulf of Mexico. Then too the ice was planing down the old lava slopes of the Sierras, and to their action is due the uncovering of the gold fields, as also the gold they ground out of the quartz, and the alluvium that made the inexhaustible soil of this greatest of valleys.

No prehistoric remains have been reported as found within this valley; but stone mortars, pestles, and arrowheads have been found, it is reported, in Pliocene gravel, at Murphy's Camp, Shaw's Flat, Columbia, Springfield, Tuolumne, Table Mountain, Sonora and Knight's Landing. Hills and mountains contain bones of the mastodon, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, horse, camel, whale and a quadruped resembling a tapir. Oyster shells fifteen inches long have been found at Coral Hollow, and Oyster Peak near Mount Diablo is named for its fossils. It is claimed that part of the skull of a man was found in sinking a shaft in one of the mining districts at a depth of 130 feet, under four successive strata of lava, which if true would indicate that man was on this coast prior to the great eruptions of this portion of the earth.

Professor Amos Bowman, of the State Geological Survey, thus defines certain eras in the geological history of California:—

First, the Pliocene, or ancient eroding period, during which these deep "dead" river channels were cut into the "bed rock."

Second, these Pliocene channels filling up with gravel, or the choking, or damming period.

Third, the active volcanic period of the Sierras, where the gravels were capped with lava and volcanic ashes.

Fourth, the cold or glacial period, when the slopes were covered with living, moving glaciers.

Fifth, the modern erosive or more recent period, during which the present river channels were formed crossing the old channels at various angles.

There seems to be no controverting the theory, or we may well say fact, that the great San Joaquin valley was at one period submerged with the waters of the Pacific ocean, which left upon their subsidence a soil of adobe that has since received a coat or deposit of sedimentary alluvium. The soil of the valley largely formed through glacial influences belongs to the secondary formative period. The mountains are of volcanic substances. Trap or basalt is the leading rock, although porphyry, syenite, slate, and especially carbonate, or magnesian limestone are found.

In attempting to define the several geological formations, we will assume that the mountains and valleys are without breaks in their formation, and as it would appear if all the groups of formations were present at one place in their natural order. But this seldom occurs. These formations are very much broken and disturbed, presenting a great variety of structures. Supposing we were to examine a section of the earth in its original condition before any disturbing cause disarranged the several strata, and beginning at the San Joaquin and extending to the top of the Sierras, the rocks, strata, etc., there would be,—

First, soil and alluvium. The conclusion will be readily reached by an observing person, from the soil and vegetation of which this is the debris, that this formation is exceedingly rich for agricultural purposes. This deposit covers almost the entire surface of

this great valley, varying somewhat as to depth, and in fertilizing strength, or rather special adaptation to certain products. The higher valleys and hills are not deficient, as a rule, in depth of soil, and in some of the smaller basins it reaches a depth of from ten to twenty feet, sufficient to support groves of immense trees. It is impossible to give the exact depth of soil in any one locality.

We give figures of a well bored some years since near the Chowchilla ranch, and within two miles of the river. Total depth, 297 feet. Two feet, surface soil and sandy loam. Through a space of ninety-eight feet was found fine sand streaked with thin layers of clay. The sand was similar to that of the plains, then one foot of solid hard-pan. Then, passing through ninety-five feet, the strata were found to be composed of various qualities of sand, from that of quick-sand to coarse gravel. Then through 101 feet was found a compact mass of hard blue clay, such as is found by the grinding away and decomposition of granite and other rocks. After passing through this flowing water was obtained.

Secondly, the conglomerate formation, comprising a deposit of shale, clay, boulders, sand, and fragments of all the lower strata, worn and loosely cemented with calcareous matter, which was evidently deposited when most of these mountains were under water. There is found in this formation evidence of floods and washings of the sea, fossils of wood, bones (mostly of marine animals), shells of mussels and other mollusks, turtles, such as are now found in creeks, with occasional impressions of sea weeds. This formation has no regular thickness. It is sometimes found in piles against the shale to a depth of from thirty to forty feet. In the foothills it extends over the Pacific coast, stratified by the action of water.

The third stratum, or bituminous shale,—"chalk rock"—varies from a white to a dark color, and from a very fine to a very coarse texture, as also from a soft and friable condition, crumbling between the fingers, to a flinty hardness that withstands the hardest steel. In this stratum are found tree-like concretions of hard sandstone 50 to 100 feet long, and also bones of marine monsters, such as whales, seals, etc., and occasional beds of lignite, an impure or immature coal, three or four feet thick. Some of this coal, however, is of a fair quality. In the white and gray chalk beds are found microscopic remains of diatoms, sponges, and other organic structures. In fact, this formation seems to be composed of the remains of these microscopic beings. Therefore, this formation must have taken place under the water, when the present Coast Range was near the level of the sea, and when perhaps the Sierra was the eastern barrier to the Pacific ocean.

The fourth, or sandstone, formation, differs but little from the shale, except the quantity of sand contained therein, not very firmly cemented and mixed more or less with the shale in alternate layers. The fossils in each are similar. Beneath the sandstone are found the upturned edges of the clay slates. These are interstratified with a limestone, copper ore and quicksilver. As the old red sand-

stone, and the true "carboniferous" rocks so called, are not found in California, it was long supposed that no valuable coal would be found in the State. Recent discoveries of that valuable commodity in large bodies in the Coast Range have set aside such theory. These coals contain far more solid combustible matter, and less incombustible material, than most tertiary coals. It is really more properly "lignite," and belongs to a later period than that of the real coal formation, lying in different strata. The rocks are of the upper secondary age, sandstone and shale, and were formed by alternating depositions in salt and fresh water.

The fifth, or limestone, formation, is more or less metamorphic, and the rock is crystalline. The lime rock is of very good quality, and when properly selected is an excellent building material and easily worked, and is found in large quantities. In places there are unexplored caves of considerable extent. No important fossils have been reported as found in this formation. It is not found in distinct horizontal strata but generally in masses, as having been thrown into heaps when in a semi-plastic state by the upheaval of underlying formations.

The sixth, or metamorphic, rock, was undoubtedly originally stratified, but now broken and thrown into endless confusion. There are alternations of slate, granite, limestone, quartz, gneiss, etc. It is the most prevalent rock of these mountains occupying a large portion of their area, and contains copper, gold, quicksilver, iron, and has recently been shown to contain petroleum of vast variety and excellent quality.

The real economic value of this formation in these mountains is as yet but partially known, and therefore little appreciated. Undoubtedly a river ran nearly in the course of the present Stanislaus, in the Pliocene age, and was destroyed by a lava flow, which rose to the level of the banks, leaving no bed for the water, and continued to build up until it assumed a mountain appearance, with serpentine steep sides, and a bare and level top. Sinking down through the level of Table mountain, the miners passed through 150 feet of basalt, 100 of volcanic sand, fifty of clay and sand, thirty of gravel (the lowest ten feet being rich in gold), and then struck the slate or bed rock.

The seventh, or granite, formation makes up the bulk of the Sierra Nevada mountains. This granite has undoubtedly at some period been stratified, although nearly all evidence of such a fact has been lost. Where exposed it crumbles readily. The lowest rock is granite, but differing greatly in its composition in different localities. Overlying this are found shales and sandstones of the Cretaceous period,—a very recent geological age; hence the conclusion that these granites are but the metamorphosed sedimentary of rocks of past ages.

During the deposition of the Cretaceous rocks, this country and the San Joaquin valley formed a part of the bottom of the Pacific ocean. Time swept on, however, and the hour which closed a period of the world's

history came, and with it the upheaval of the mighty Sierras.

Then followed a long period of comparative rest, and perhaps the period when mine deposits or upheavals were made. Large rivers were formed, deep channels and gorges cut through the uplifted rocks, which were so heated by volcanic fires as to crumble when coming in contact with water, and the heat also metamorphosed the disintegrated parts, sands, mud, etc., and they became hard rocks. In places, interstices, veins, etc., were filled with the melted rocks from below; through others circulated hot water, charged with the various valuable minerals, gold, silver, copper, etc. These were slowly deposited where now found in large quartz ledges, as also later in gravels where glacial mills had ground them down and washed them down the streams along the foothills and into the valleys.

The climate of this great valley has been spoken of in the history of the State, but will be given special local attention in the history of counties elsewhere in this work, as also will the various products. We wish now to call the reader's attention to the condition and aesthetic appearance of this great valley.

THE PRIMITIVE LANDSCAPE.

There began to settle in this valley in 1848–'49 that intrepid band of pioneers who had scaled the Sierras or sailed "around the Horn." At length they gained the promised land. When they entered this great valley they found it an interminable grain field, miles upon miles and acre after acre; wild oats grew in wondrous profusion, and in many places to a prodigious height,—one great glorious green of wild, waving grain, high over the head of the wayfarer on foot, and shoulder high to the equestrian. Wild flowers of every prismatic shade charmed the eye, while they vied with each other in the gorgeousness of their colors, and blended into dazzling splendor. One breath of wind and the wide emerald expanse rippled itself into space, while with a heavier breeze came a swell whose rolling waves beat against the mountain-sides, and being hurled back were lost in the far-away horizon, and shadow pursued shadow in a long, merry chase. The air was filled with the hum of bees, the chirp of birds, and an overpowering fragrance from the various flowering plants weighted the air. The hillsides, overrun as they were with a dense mass of chapparal, were hard to penetrate, while in some portions the deep, dark gloom of the forest trees lent relief to the eye. The almost boundless range was intersected throughout with divergent trails, whereby the traveler moved from point to point, progress being, as it were, in darkness on account of the height of the oats on either side, and rendered dangerous in the valleys by the bands of untamed cattle, sprung from the stock introduced by the mission fathers. These found food and shelter on the plains during the night; at dawn they repaired to the higher grounds to chew the cud and bask in the sunshine. At short intervals coyotes sprang almost from beneath the traveler's feet. The flight of numerous quail and other birds, the nimble run and leap of the jack rabbit, and the stampede of the elk and the antelope, which

abounded in thousands, added to the charm.

THE VALLEY IN MAY.

The month of May has robed the great valley of the San Joaquin in a garb of beauty. The oak forests, which burst into leaf early in the spring, present to the eye when viewed from an eminence a vast billowy sea of green. The wide plain seems an unbroken expanse of waving grain, just beginning to ripen for the harvest, field succeeding field, and mile succeeding mile as far as the vision can extend. Lawns are fresh and beautiful, and flower-gardens contain a wealth of bloom; climbing vines wind about arbor and lattice, making masses of leaf sprinkled with blossoms of every hue. Flowers from the north grow in the shade of the palm from the south. Numberless plants from nurseries nestle with the spine-covered but brilliantly flowered cactus from the desert. The most beautiful ornamental exotics from every clime and every corner of the world are naturalized here, and grow and thrive by the side of the flowering favorites native to the soil, which have been transplanted from forest and field.

Such is this great valley in the last days of a California spring,—the period of transition between the showery April weather and the warm, rainless summer. May finds it a land of beauty, and leaves it a paradise.

We will attempt to convey to the reader the scene meeting the eye of the traveler on his entrance into this great valley. The writer will ask the reader to be seated with him on the north-bound train over the Southern Pacific railroad. We will discuss different topics until we pass through the great Mojave desert, and note the grand scenery through the Tehachapi mountains, the wonderful engineering skill displayed in rounding the many points, crossing cañons, through tunnels, and the famous loop where the railroad doubles over, across and under itself in finding its way into the great valley below. The long grade descended, and before the traveler lies the great San Joaquin valley. An almost level plain extends away to the north 500 miles. Practically an unknown stretch of territory reaches all the way from Caliente to Redding, walled in by mountains on either side. The very immensity of the valley of the San Joaquin and Sacramento, for they are practically one, is a source of attraction, for truly it is without an equal in more respects than one.

If it be winter or spring when the tourist reaches this portion of the State, the earth will be dressed in the most gorgeous garments of green and gold, purple and red, white and blue,—all the colors of which nature is capable. Hundreds of thousands of acres will be a sea of waving grain, the passing breeze rippling over it as the wind does over the water. Other hundreds of thousands of acres will be covered with a natural growth of grass and flowers of unlimited variety, but in gorgeous masses of color, visible for miles. Here a whole slope will be a literal field of the "cloth of gold," there royal purple will be massed over acres and acres, and yonder purest white or azure blue salutes the vision in solid masses, unmixed

with other shades. The soft, balmy breeze comes in at the car window, spicy and perfumed as no artificer can produce or imitate; the drowsy hum of bees is in the air, and a feeling of delicious languor and contentment steals over the senses.

Although the level plains extend as far as the eye can reach, yet so lovely is it in its springlike dress that not for a moment does it become wearisome.

Suppose, however, that it is midsummer when this journey is undertaken. Except where orchards or vineyards, alfalfa or cornfields, with their dark green verdure, relieve the eye, the landscape is a dull monotone of brown, with slightly varying shades. In the great grainfields huge machines move to and fro, apparently of their own volition, cutting gigantic swaths of golden grain, and leaving their pathway strewn with sacks bursting with choicest wheat. By the side of the track acres are covered with these sacks, literally corded up and awaiting shipment to tide-water. No fear of rain haunts the farmer here, and he calmly stacks up the threshed grain in the open field, with no shelter other than a handful of straw, and perhaps not even that. Later in the season the traveler will be delighted with the sight of thousands of tons of apricots, peaches, raisins, etc., spread out in the sun to dry, and he will doubtless learn with surprise that, cured with no other aid than the heat of the sun and the desiccating power of the atmosphere, fruit will rival the choicest products of the most expensive and elaborate evaporators in use elsewhere.

Great irrigating canals, large as rivers, will attract notice all through the valley, their waters spreading out in every direction and making valuable lands that otherwise would be little else than a desert. Artesian wells, too, that rival the most noted ones in this or the old world, may be seen in this valley. Single wells that flow, one, two, almost three millions of gallons daily are here, while those of smaller proportions are to be met on every hand. A single one of these wells will furnish water enough for a thousand acres, and sometimes even more, and their value reaches a sum that would appear fabulous.

Every few miles a halt is made at a town well built and prosperous and surrounded by comfortable homes and farms. Then the great colony region of Fresno county is traversed, and now the traveler will be told of thousands of men who enjoy incomes from little plats of from ten to thirty acres far larger than the farmer of the East can realize from ten times that area with thrice the amount of labor. Here small farms are numbered by the thousand, and the uniform prosperity of their owners is apparent from the comfortable, even elegant homes, and the general air of happiness that exists.

From the time the San Joaquin valley is entered at the south until it is left at the north the observant traveler will find an abundance to interest and amuse, and not to have visited this great valley will have been to miss one of the most important portions of the State.

A MOST PROMISING COUNTRY.

The San Joaquin valley is the most won-

derful agricultural region in the United States, capable of producing almost everything, and its area is large enough to maintain millions of people. The great interior basin of California, comprising the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys—two divisions of one uninterrupted plain—has an area of about 17,200 square miles. The extreme length of this great valley is nearly 500 miles, and the width averages about fifty miles. The writer in speaking of this great valley is constantly reminded by citizens of each subdivision of the valley, that he resides in the Sacramento valley; and another wishes it to be distinctly understood that he is proud of his domicile in the famous Tulare valley, whilst a third is proud of his home in the only Kern valley on earth! Thus it will be seen how the writer, not even a resident of the State, and attempting to treat of this great valley from an unprejudiced standpoint, will at the same time run in opposition to, and in conflict with, opinions of good men, who from a commendable local pride and home attachment wish their immediate section to be known as a distinct and independent valley. This claim we will admit, theoretically, and will so recognize and treat on each, in the local chapters in this work. At the same time we must treat of this great valley practically as a whole, and it certainly can not detract in the least from the other grand subdivisions to be mentioned as constituting a portion and an important portion of "The Great San Joaquin Valley."

We have asserted, and adduced evidence to prove, that California is the most wonderful State in the Union, and making rapid strides toward the position of the empire State; and furthermore, that California is an empire herself. This in no wise detracts from the glory of other States, neither does it from the United States; and though California, bearing this proud distinction, would not be other than one of the shining stars of the great American Union, she gladly shares her glory with her sister components of the greatest nation on earth, and so do the subdivisions of the great San Joaquin valley feel proud to occupy a position as a portion of the world-renowned valley.

Perhaps some writers, as well as readers, will demur to the claim that the San Joaquin, speaking of it as a whole, is the greatest valley in the world. The claim will be made that the great Mississippi valley, the Amazon valley, etc., are of greater area. This will be readily conceded; but the writer will not concede that greatness consists alone in area as applied to a country, and defies the world to show another valley of like area with the San Joaquin that is its equal in the general averages of all the elements of good quality, —soil, climate, health, adjacent mountain scenery and variety of productions, and a capacity to sustain so large a population. The writer has spent months in this great valley, has made its resources and future possibilities a study, and has arrived at conclusions not only from observation and study, but also from consulting travelers who have been over the civilized world; and when such have been asked the question, "Have you seen a

valley equaling the San Joaquin in every respect?" the answer has been in every instance, "No; nothing that will compare with it."

THE CHIEF SOURCES OF WEALTH.

To the early Californian the chief sources of wealth were cattle and gold mines. Mining was the chief industry, and stock-raising received great attention. Over the richest soil of this great valley, roamed large herds of cattle, horses and sheep; but in the course of time, as population increased, the country, watered by the San Joaquin and King's rivers, was found to be most fertile and productive. The dwellers of these valleys engaged in tilling the soil, and the dwellers of the hilly parts of the Coast Range and Sierra Nevada, which are better adapted to grazing, became the owners of herds of cattle and sheep.

At the present day the sources of wealth are, in addition to the foregoing, everything in the line of agriculture and horticulture. Details are given in the respective county histories further on.

FLOODS AND DROUTHS.

The traveler, when inquiring as to the great floods in California, and also extreme drouths, both of which have had their disastrous effects upon this great valley, will receive answers *pro* and *con*, as he would in all other countries, and each enthusiast has his theory which he will insist upon as a fact. In order that the stranger may know the exact state of affairs for all time since the American occupation, and to refresh the memory of the old settlers, we present an exhibit of flood and drouth periods carefully prepared, which will give the reader all of the facts, and, as will be seen, not seeking to hide any; and this great valley has had its share of the two extremes.

Of the many peculiar climatic characteristics of California none are so puzzling as those which relate to the rainfall and its effects. They set all previously formed ideas at defiance, and the longer one seeks for some law that governs their idiosyncrasies—for law there must be—the more hopelessly does one become lost in a mass of contradictions. Take the question of floods for instance. "Their cause," some glib-tongued forestry crank will quickly exclaim, "is easily explained. Remove the forests from the mountains and floods in the valleys must inevitably result. It is a law of nature which cannot be transgressed. Really, my dear sir, you insult me by asking a question whose answer is so self-evident. Propound something more difficult, if you please."

But hold on. Doubtless this explanation of it is according to the text-book theory and is a plausible explanation, too. Unfortunately, however, it conflicts diametrically with the facts. The worst floods California has ever experienced occurred years before any considerable area of the forests had been destroyed. Since tens of thousands of acres about the headwaters of the streams have been denuded of their dense growth of trees the floods have decreased in frequency and violence; and it has been many years since, with a single exception, anything approaching the flood seasons of the first fifteen years' history of the State has been seen.

Look in another direction for information upon the subject. Ask some member of an anti-debris association, for instance, for his opinion on the flood question, and he will tell you it is hydraulic mining that has filled up the beds of the streams and caused them to overflow their banks. Yet, singularly enough, the records prove beyond cavil that the worst floods the State has experienced occurred years before hydraulic mining was generally practiced, and that during the palmiest days of that industry there were few disastrous overflows. The theory and the facts are as badly at variance here as they are when forest denudation is saddled with the blame.

It is worth while taking a glance at the history of the floods that have visited this State. The Sacramento and the San Joaquin rivers and their tributaries, draining the vast interior valley, are of course the streams that are most subject to overflow. Prior to the American occupation there are records of floods that occurred in 1805, in 1825-'26, and in 1846–'47. Doubtless there were many other seasons of high water as well, but there being little or nothing to injure no records were kept of such occurrences.

The winter of 1849–'50, however, was one of excessive rainfall, the storms commencing on November 2 and continuing almost without cessation for six weeks. As a result the valley was flooded and the city of Sacramento was covered with water to a depth of four feet. In January another great storm flooded the city, and in March and April another overflow was threatened, but was prevented by the energetic construction of dams.

This experience led to the construction of levees, upon which a large amount of money was expended, but they were ineffectual, and in 1852, 1853 and 1854 there were floods which did a tremendous amount of damage. After the last mentioned date the levees were greatly strengthened, and the city escaped further damage until the winter of 1861–'62, when they gave way before the pressure of a flood and loss aggregating over $3,000,000 resulted! Although threatened several times since, there has never been a flood down to the present time which was so disastrous as this.

In the Yuba river floods occurred in 1849–'50, in 1852–'53, in 1861–'62, in 1866 and in 1875. In the San Joaquin river there were similar seasons of flood Since the great flood of 1861–'62, however, there have been no such periods of high water, and no such losses have been suffered from this cause. It is true, many streams overflowed their banks during the excessive rains of the winter of 1889–'90, but the damage was mostly confined to the overflow of farm lands, and consisted largely in the inability to put in grain crops for the season. So far as absolute destruction of property was concerned, similar to that caused by the floods in the first fifteen years of the State's history, there is no comparison.

In the lower part of the State there have been occasional losses from high water. One of the notable instances is afforded in the Santiago cañon, in Los Angeles county. When

the Southern Pacific railroad was built through that region in 1876, some of the old Spanish settlers pointed out certain marks high up the walls of the cañon which they declare had been made by floods many years previous. The railroad builders could hardly credit the statement, and paid no heed to the warning, but located the line in the bed of the cañon, down which ordinarily only a slender stream trickles. Twice, however, within the last five years have there been floods here which have literally obliterated miles of railroad bed, ties, rails and bridges. But these floods have certainly not been caused either by the destruction of the forests (there being none to destroy), or the work of hydraulic miners (there being no such enterprises in that region).

The same experience has befallen one or two streams in San Diego and San Bernardino counties. Twice have many miles of the railroad through the Temecula cañon been destroyed by floods, while some damage has been occasioned by high water in the Santa Ana and other streams. Yet, as a matter of fact, the recollections of the oldest white settlers, and of the Indians as well, together with the indelible traces left in many places, show that far worse floods occurred prior to the general settlement of the State than have happened since. For forty years the forests of the San Bernardino mountains have been attacked in a constantly increasing proportion each year. Yet the streams that rise in those mountains show no diminution in their flow, are not, in fact, subject to as great floods as they were many years ago, and indeed furnish a greater area with supplies for irrigation than they did twenty years ago, or was deemed possible at that time.

Just as there was much more loss from floods in the early years of the State's settlement, so there was greater damage from droughts in that period, while there has been a steady decrease in the frequency of dry seasons. The first dry season after the American occupation was that of 1851. There being little agriculture at that time not much loss was caused except to the cattle men, who were dependent entirely upon the natural grasses, and in the absence of these were compelled either to allow their stock to die or else kill them for their hides and tallow. In 1856 occurred a drought which, while less severe than the one in 1851, caused a greater loss among agriculturists, there being a much larger area then under cultivation.

Following the flood season of 1861–'62, there came, however, a drought, in 1864, the most disastrous the State has ever seen. The grain crop was almost a total failure, while, owing to the absence of feed, cattle and sheep starved by the hundred thousand. In some sections scarcely any were left alive out of bands which had numbered many thousands under a single ownership, and many a man who had been considered wealthy saw his entire fortune melt away without the power to save even the smallest fraction.

Seven years of plenty followed, and then in 1870–'71 came another drought, which, however, was not so productive of ruin as the preceding one. The grain crop was scant and

much stock was lost, but there was no such general destruction and entire loss.

For six years thereafter there was a season of general prosperity, and it was at this time that the southern portion of the State received its first great "boom." Immigrants came by the thousand from the East, and vacant lands were settled in every direction. But in 1876–'77 a drought came which was second in its disastrous results only to that of 1864. Cattle and sheep perished in droves. In sections that were wooded the oaks and other trees were felled by thousands to allow the starving animals to browse on the foliage and tender twigs. Bands of sheep numbering thousands each were abandoned by their owners to die of starvation! Men made a business of going among the abandoned animals and slaughtering them for the sake of their pelts. In some districts the very air was polluted by the thousands of dead animals scattered everywhere, while the sky was blackened with hordes of feathered scavengers hastening to their carrion feast. Bands of sheep were sold for a bit a head, which in ordinary seasons were worth $2 or $3, and tens of thousands of the starving animals were killed and their bodies cooked wholesale for the sake of the little fat which they contained. Millions of dollars were lost by the stock men, and the industry received a setback from which in more than one locality it never recovered.

This was the last bad drought, however, to which California was subjected. There have been seasons of scant rainfall since then, but no such general destruction of crops and animals. Every year, it is true, there is the same amount of talk about the possibility of dry seasons, short crops and all that. But this is merely the perpetuation of an old custom. As a matter of fact California farmers have little to fear on this score, and even the occurrence of a season of scant rainfall has little appreciable effect upon business circles.

The increase of irrigation has of course much to do with this state of affairs. The fruit crop is largely independent of the rainfall, while grain-growers have learned by experience methods which assure them a fair return with less rain than was thought possible twenty or thirty years ago. It is certain that this state of affairs will continue, too. Each year sees a larger area brought under irrigation, and sees the farmers more generally emancipated from their thraldom to the uncertain elements. With the indisputable facts that floods and droughts are of less frequent occurrence now than in the earlier history of the State, all branches of farming are put upon a basis of greater certainty, and the tiller of the soil can now plow and sow with the almost positive certainty that he will also reap an ample reward. It is not too much to boast that in no other part of the world has the agriculturist so great an assurance of reasonable success as in California.

Opening out, as we did, on the physical features of the San Joaquin valley, it seemed that we could not appropriately interrupt the thread of the recital by the introduction of other matter. Under the head of social his-

tory we have space for only one or two topics, as follows:

INDIANS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY.

This formidable race is almost a people of the past. Few are now to be seen in the valley, and ere long none will be left to tell the story how their ancestry (who were numbered by perhaps hundreds of thousands) were at one time monarchs of this wonderful country.

Kit Carson said that in 1829 the valleys of California were full of Indians. He speaks of many flourishing tribes then existing. When he again visited the State in 1839, they had measurably disappeared, and people then residing where he saw them on his first trip declared they know nothing of them. No estimate of their numbers had been made until 1833, and it was then known that they had greatly decreased. It is no difficult matter, however, to account for their rapid disappearance when we take into account how the several tribes were constantly at war with each other; and in the fall of 1833 the cholera or some other fearful scourge broke out among them and raged with such fearful fatality that they were unable either to bury or burn their dead, and the air was filled with the stench of their decaying bodies. The Indians used a sweat-house for all the ills of their race, and much depended on the kill or cure, according to the disease of the subject.

The valley Indians subsisted principally on grass-seeds, acorns and fish, the squaws doing all the heavy labor; and sometimes they killed a deer or antelope, but most of land animals was rarely on their bill of fare. The women were supposed to provide all the food for the family. They made water-tight baskets from willow twigs, in which they collected and prepared their food, carried water, etc. They reduced the acorns to a fine meal in mortars made of stone, after which they soaked it in water to rid it of the bitter taste, and then they made it into a kind of soup in a willow basket. Soups were also made from grass-seed. The men caught salmon in the spring season, which were dried in sufficient quantities by the women to last during the year.

The men would at times sally out and secure a deer or antelope. When hunting the deer they went under the skin and horns of that animal as a disguise, and thus slipped upon their prey. While they generally used their acorn meal in a soup form, they also baked a kind of bread from it. Grasshoppers formed one of their favorite dishes, as also many other insects and reptiles not poisonous. The grasshoppers for immediate use were either mashed into a paste and mixed with other edibles, or were saturated with salt water, placed in a hole in the ground, which had been previously heated, then covered with hot stones. When thoroughly cooked they were eaten like shrimps. When intended for winter use they were thoroughly dried in the sun, after cooking. They caught fish both by spearing and netting. Their spears were made from a tough wood, from four to five feet in length, pointed with either flint or bone.

Their weapons for hunting and warfare were the spear, as before described, and the

bow and arrow. Theso Indians were peaceably inclined toward the whites, and resorted to deeds of violence only under great provocation.

The government of the respective tribes was vested in a chief, which was generally hereditary in his family, in the male line only. Much dignity was attached to the chief, and his family were treated with greater consideration than those of others. Tho widows and daughters of chiefs were treated with distinction and not required to work.

These Indians cremated their dead, and such ceremony at the funeral pyre of a chief was an affair in which the entire tribe participated, and their ceremonies and lamentations continued for several days.

There seems to be but little known as to their marriage ceremonies. It appears that tho maiden's wishes were consulted. She was not forced to marry against her will. The husband could abandon the wife at will, but the wife could not leave the husband. He could have as many wives as he could keep, but the woman but one husband. Adultery was not common among them, yet a husband would prostitute his dearest wife to a white man for a small consideration. The wives were prolific, bringing forth children regularly each year, and never losing a day from their labor thereby! It is given as a fact that at the birth of a child the husband takes to bed and feigns sick and suffering while the women attend him as though he was the real sufferer!

Among other traditions the Indians had the following: "Their ancestors once inhabited the Coast Range mountains and valleys. The 'Great Spirit' became angry with them and sent earthquakes, fire and water and destroyed great numbers. Those who escaped remained ever afterward away from that region."

There are yet a very small number of tho Mono tribe living on the Sierra range, in Fresno county.

In the year 1850 James D. Savage kept a trading post on the Fresno river, then in Mariposa county, near what has since been known as Leach's old store; and on Christmas night of that year, Savage being away from home, the store in charge of two clerks and a man named Brown, the Indians revolted, killed the two clerks and demolished the store. Brown was carried across the Fresno river, barefooted and in his nightclothes, by an Indian, when he was permitted to go, and he did not hesitate to improve the opportunity and went as fast as possible to Mariposa.

Cassady & Lane kept a trading post a few miles below Millerton, and were engaged in mining at a point above, since known as Cassady bar. Here they had some thirty men engaged. This was early in January, 1851. The mining camp was enclosed by a stone fort, the trading post by ditches, and the parties felt secure and had no fear of Indian depredations; but soon the Indians engaged in a general warfare, which was opened by killing two men on Fine Gold gulch, driving off their stock, and killing two other men below Millerton.

About January 15, 1851, Dr. Lewis Leach,

a prominent pioneer, now residing in the city of Fresno, arrived at Cassady's trading post from Four creeks, in company with several men, one of whom, Frank W. Boden, had received four arrow wounds in his right arm at Four creeks. Arriving at the trading post, Dr. Leach found it necessary to amputate Boden's arm, which he did and remained with and cared for him, and in some eight or ten days he was convalescent.

About the 20th of January Cassady and Savage came down from the mining camp to see how matters were going at the trading post. The clerks had been vigilant guarding at night, which Cassady hooted at and said, "No danger;" so they concluded that if he could stand it they would. Therefore they all went to bed, and no guard was posted. Savage slept in a covered wagon, within the ditch enclosure. In the morning there was an arrow sticking in the canvass of the main tent, also several in the mules, and Indian footprints around, yet Cassady persisted there was no danger! On the following day Leach and Savage left Cassady's camp and went to Mariposa, where three volunteer companies were organized under command of Major James D. Savage. Captain Knykendall commanded Company A, of seventy men; Captain John Bowling, Company B, of seventy-two men; and Captain William Dill, Company C, of fifty-five men. M. B. Lewis was Adjutant, and A. Brunston, Surgeon, who was soon after succeeded by Dr. Leach.

Soon intelligence was received from Cassady's camp that he had been killed by the Indians. A detachment of thirty men from Company A, with Dr. Leach accompanying, was immediately sent to ascertain the facts. They found the body of Cassady on the bank of the San Joaquin river, a short distance below his trading post, his legs cut off, his tongue cut out and pinned with an arrow over the region of his heart. He was decently interred by the detachment, near where the body was found. From Cassady's place Company A was ordered to the headwaters of the San Joaquin, where they fought a battle with the Indians, killing thirteen and wounding many. Captain Bowling with his company was sent to the Yo Semite country, and Captain Dill with his company to the headwaters of the Chowchilla. Several battles were fought and the Indians soundly whipped on each occasion, which caused them to sue for peace, and they signed a treaty on the 29th day of April, 1851.

A boundary or reservation was then assigned them, and stock, provisions, clothing, etc., furnished them by the Government, and thus ended the short Indian war. In the summer of 1851, after the treaty was concluded, Savage put up a store on the Fresno river. The following winter he built Fort Bishop, further down the river. His principal trade was with the Indians. He purchased gold dust from them. They yet seemed restless, and Savage used caution in his dealings with them. About this time the Fresno reservation was established. Colonel Thomas Henley was appointed Indian Agent. Soon thereafter King's river reservation was established, also under Colonel Henley. The

Indians in the meantime kept quiet until the 16th day of August, 1852.

The Meewoc nation extended from the Sierra snow line in Tuolumne county to the San Joaquin river; the Walla tribe were confined within the present bounds of Stanislaus county; the Wallalshumnes occupied the country lower down the valley between the two rivers; the Coconoons and Potoancies, between the Tuolumne and Merced, and the Yachichumnes between the San Joaquin and Mount Diablo. These Indians rarely exceeded five feet eight inches in height, though they were strong and well built. Their complexion was dark, frequently approaching black, hair very coarse, thick, straight and black.

The Indian dress was very primitive; in summer the men wore nothing scarcely. On some occasions they wore a slight covering about their loins; in winter they wore a kind of robe made from hides of animals, also a species of robe made by uniting feathers of birds with strips of sealskin, etc., thus securing effectual protection against the inclement weather. The Indian women wore in summer an apron which they manufactured from the tules and other grasses. This garment was open at the sides, and extended to the knees, back and front. In the winter season they used a half-tanned deer skin in addition to the tule garment. The young belles frequently wore their hair long, flowing to the waist, and cut short, or, modernly speaking, "banged," in front. They were very fond of all kinds of ornaments—both men and women—which were worn in profusion in their hair, and bone ornaments, etc., in their ears, and heads and other trinkets about their necks. The head-dress for gala days and dances was formed of gay feathers skillfully arranged, and topped off with long feathers from some large bird. The upper part of their body was painted in several colors, red predominating, however; this they obtained from the cinnabar fields in the Coast Range. Tattooing seems to have been a custom among the women, but rarely practiced by the men.

These people lived, in summer, under sheds formed of brush, and in winter in excavations some four feet deep made in the earth. This was governed in size by the number in a family. Around this excavation was firmly set numerous willow poles, which were drawn together at the top, leaving a space for the smoke to pass out. They then wove through those poles crosswise smaller branches, after which they covered the whole with brush, bark, mosses, etc., and then daubed it over with mud, leaving only an opening to pass in and out. In the centre of this rude, San Joaquin cottage, they built their fire and did their cooking, and around it they slept on mats made from the grasses.

This would seem to the native sons and daughters of to-day rather a crude parlor, kitchen, dining-room and sleeping apartment combined; it will be seen that it was built and arranged for comfort and convenience, more than for its internal or external ornamentation. The occupants were lords in their day and in their way. They lived in villages and had a large centrally located structure for use on public occasions, as pow-wows,

dances, etc. It was constructed on the same general plan as their residences.

In 1851 Major James D. Savage gave the number of Indians in California as follows:

Klamath, Trinidad, Sacramento and tributaries.	30,000
San Joaquin and tributaries down to Tuolumne,	6,500
Tuolumne River Indians,	2,100
Merced River Indians,	2,100
San Joaquin headquarters Indians,	2,700
King's River Indians,	200
Kern River Indians,	1,700
Tulare River Indians,	1,000
Umas River Indians,	5,000
East Side Sierra Nevada Indians,	31,000
On the coast not civilized,	6,000
Total,	88,300

MERCED COUNTY.

BOUNDARIES AND AREA.

MERCED county occupies a position in the heart of the San Joaquin valley and of California, stretching from northeast to southwest completely across the valley from the foothills of the Sierras to the summit of the coast range. It is bounded by Stanislaus, Mariposa, Fresno, San Benito and Santa Clara counties; its greatest length is sixty-three miles, and its greatest width forty-five miles, while the entire area is about 2,000 square miles.

The boundary limits of the county and those adjoining have often been a source of dispute. Mark Howell, then county surveyor, was engaged in the spring of 1872 in running the lines between this county and Mariposa, Stanislaus and Tuolumne, and in May of that year was ordered to retrace the line between Merced and Mariposa, and to make a map of the survey.

A. T. Herman, county surveyor of Santa Clara, and deputy surveyor, George H. Persin of Merced, met on July 7, 1873, for the purpose of establishing the boundary line between the two counties and came to an amicable agreement. The water divide of the Mount Diablo range marks the boundary line of the two counties, which connect for a distance of nineteen miles. Between Merced and Fresno counties the boundary lines had long been a subject for dispute, which was settled in May, 1873, by the board of supervisors of Fresno county accepting the Merced survey, each county bearing half the expense, amounting to $881.22 apiece.

The boundaries between this county and Stanislaus were also for a long time in an unsettled condition.

The northern boundary corresponds very nearly with the thirty-eighth degree of north latitude, and the southern boundary with the thirty-seventh degree. Longitude 121 west from Greenwich runs very nearly through the center of the county.

LAND GRANTS.

There were four Mexican grants in Stanislaus county, viz.: the Orestimba, of 10,166-

.39 acres, Sebastian Nunez, confirmee; Panoche de San Juan y los Carrisalitos, Ursa and Ronco, confirmees, 22,175.34 acres; San Luis Gonzaga, J. P. Pacheco, confirmee, 24,321.43 acres; Sanjon de Santa Rita, F. Sobranes, confirmee, 48,000 acres; total area of private grants, 104,663.16 acres.

THE SOIL.

While the surface of the county, or at least that portion which is of prospective use in agriculture, embracing nearly its entire area, is mostly of a level or gently rolling character, there are several different kinds of soil, generally varying with the topography. The bottom land along the rivers and smaller streams is of an alluvial character, formed from the washings of freshets; from this to the foothills the soil is generally of adobe, or a loam more or less sandy in its nature; while the foothill land is as a rule of adobe or clay. There is but little alkali land in the county, comparatively, and in sections where it does appear it is only in spots which disappear as cultivation advances.

WATER-COURSES.

The main water-course of Merced county is the great "Father of Waters" of the valley, the San Joaquin river, which enters the territory of the county from the southeast, and thenceforward follows the general trend of the valley to the northwest in its course toward the bay of San Francisco. The Merced river, which plays so important a part in the problem of irrigation for the county, reinforces the San Joaquin with the waters of Yo Semite, while Chowchilla river, Mariposa creek, Bear creek and others are the lesser streams on the eastern side of the county.

The streams of the west side are not perennial, and in places not so well defined as those of the east side, and depend upon the winter rains for their supply. They are the Los Baños, San Luis, Cottonwood and Sycamore creeks.

The Merced river has a very tortuous course, and the level of its bottom lands is much below that of the surrounding plains. About eight miles from the cañons of the river the distance from bluff to bluff is about three miles, while in the next eight miles of the river's course the width of the bottom lands narrows down to about one mile, and the contraction continues as the river approaches its outlet into the San Joaquin. These bottom lands are exceedingly rich, and many prosperous farmers pursue their calling thereon.

Much of the land directly contiguous to the San Joaquin river is low tule land, very rich but subject to overflow. These lands are not altogether waste, however, as they afford good pasturage for stock.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME "MERCED."

The name Merced, as applied to the river, and afterwards to the county, has a rather romantic origin. It is said to have been conferred by Lieutenant Moraga, of the Mexican army, and his soldiers about 1835. He was stationed at the presidio of San Francisco, and in the summer of that year was pursuing, with a company of men, some marauding Indians into the valley. They crossed the San Joaquin river near the mouth of the

THE DOMES, FROM MERCED RIVER.

Tuolumne, and proceeded thence in a southeasterly direction to the Merced river, and were without water during the entire journey of forty miles. In their famished condition the stream with its cooling waters seemed to them a veritable river of mercy, the meaning in English of the name which they applied, "El Rio de la Merced."

On pursuing their journey to the southeast they encountered a stream along whose banks were myriads of butterflies, and they gave it accordingly the name, "El Arroyo de las Mariposas,"—the creek of the butterflies—or, as it is now called, Mariposa creek.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

The county of Merced was formed under an act of the Legislature of 1855, being set off from Mariposa, then represented by Assemblymen Thomas Flournoy and E. Burke, and Major A. McNeill, Senator. The bill, which was approved by Governor Bigler, April 19, 1855, provided for a Board of Commissioners, which was constituted as follows: A. Stevinson, William N. Neill, William J. Barfield, Charles V. Snelling, James McDermott, Samuel Lovejoy and Charles F. Bludworth.

These commissioners arranged for an election for the organization of the new county, appointing officers, designating voting precincts, etc. They met, organized and performed their first duties in this connection at the Neill ranch, and made all arrangements for the first election, to be hold on the second Monday of May, 1855.

This election also decided the question of the county seat, and the choice fell upon the ranch of Turner & Osborne, on Mariposa creek.

FIRST COUNTY OFFICERS.

The county officers chosen at this election were as follows: John W. Fitzhugh, County Judge; S. H. P. Ross and J. A. Vance, Associate Justices; Charles F. Bludworth, Sheriff; E. G. Rector, Clerk; J. W. Smith, District Attorney; George W. Halstead, Treasurer; J. W. Robertson, Assessor; Erastus Kelsey, Surveyor; Gordon H. Murry, W. J. Barfield and Samuel D. Kelly, Supervisors.

FIRST OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

The county judge and associates held the first meeting of the court of sessions under some oak trees, alongside the creek banks on the ranch of Turner & Osborne, in June, 1855, the facilities for holding court being of the most primitive description, a table, two chairs, boxes, benches and kegs being the furniture, while the shade of the trees constituted the protection from the sun's rays.

It is related that the grand jury met in the bed of the south branch of the creek, under the shade of a large oak on the bank. It returned twenty-five indictments, mostly for stock-stealing.

The trial jury met in the bed of the north branch of the creek, also shaded by a projecting tree. None of the parties indicted were convicted.

THE ORIGINAL COUNTY SEAT.

No definite name was ever given to the first county seat. It proved unsatisfactory owing to its inaccessibility, lack of mail facilities, etc., and a petition was circulated and

received the necessary signatures, praying for a re-submission of the question of location.

CHANGE OF COUNTY SEAT.

The question was again submitted to the voters of the county at the election held in September, 1855, the contestants for the honor being the old location, the ranch of N. B. Stoneroad and the Snelling ranch.

The Snelling ranch was the successful competitor, and the town of Snelling sprang up. There was already a small nucleus for a settlement there.

For some time the court was held in the hotel building at Snelling, but one of the first steps taken by the Board of Supervisors after the re-location was the provision for a courthouse, for which the contract was awarded to C. S. Peck and J. O. McGahey. The sum of $11,700 was appropriated by the Board for the building, which cost $13,000, the remaining $300 being raised by subscription from public-spirited citizens.

COUNTY SEAT REMOVED TO MERCED.

The construction of the railroad through the heart of the county sealed the doom of Snelling as the seat of justice, however, and in October, 1872, a petition was circulated praying for another submission of the question of location. Having received the necessary signatures, the petition was presented to the Board of Supervisors in November, and a special election was accordingly provided for, the date being set for December 12, 1872.

A bitter fight now commenced between the new railroad town of Merced and Snelling, the former ambitious and aspiring for the prestige and power which the county seat would give her, the latter battling for her preservation, it being feared, with reason, that she would lose nearly all importance if deprived of the county seat. The town of Livingston, also on the railroad, soon appeared a factor in the struggle, her candidacy being quite generally attributed to the efforts of the Snellingites to divide up the vote and prevent Merced from receiving a majority.

At the election 983 votes were cast, of which Merced received 566, Livingston 236, and Snelling 181, thus giving Merced a clear majority over both competitors.

The Board of Supervisors accordingly provided for the removal of books, records, furniture, etc., to Merced. An injunction was obtained restraining the removal, but was dismissed on review, and the transfer was accomplished on the 30th of December, 1872.

The first quarters of the county officers in Merced were on the second floor of the building of Olcise & Garibaldi, corner of L and Front streets.

Washington Hall, a building erected by an association of citizens for public use, was completed in July, 1874, and this was used for county purposes until a special structure was erected by the county.

COURTHOUSE.

The Legislature of 1873–'74 passed an act authorizing the county of Merced to issue bonds for the purpose of erecting a courthouse, in an amount not exceeding $75,000.

Bonds were issued and sold, plans prepared for the building, bids for construction were

advertised for, and on the 2d of April, 1874, the contract was let to A. W. Burrell & Co., at their figures, $55,970. A. A. Bennett, the architect, was appointed superintendent of construction.

The corner-stone was laid July 7, 1874, under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of California, Free and Accepted Masons, the exercises being participated in by the various secret societies and citizens generally. Hon. P. D. Wigginton addressed the assemblage, and Hon. J. W. Robertson delivered an historical review of the county's progress. The festivities were crowned by a grand ball held in the evening at the Hotel El Capitan.

The building was dedicated on the 8th of May, 1875, with appropriate ceremonies.

Full value was obtained by the county for its expenditures on this building. In height it is two stories and basement, surmounted by a dome, and it presents a handsome and imposing appearance. Not only is the building exceedingly attractive in its style to the beholder, but the grounds, which are ten acres in extent, are tastefully laid out and form a fitting surrounding to the county's prided building.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Of the early settlers of Merced county many have passed away or gone to other localities, but there are still a number living within the limits of the county who have witnessed its transition from the primitive condition of the early days to its present state of development.

The following list of early settlers of this county who came to California prior to Admission day, September 9, 1850, and who were then residents of the county, was published by the Merced *Express*. There are some few necessary changes, and in some cases brief remarks, taken from short sketches of their lives: William R. Aiken, born in Mississippi; J. C. Blackburn, Ohio; P. B. Bennett, Ireland; J. W. Bost, afterward Surveyor-General of California, and the engineer of the East Side Canal, still a prominent resident of Merced; Patrick Carroll, Ireland; Joseph Chapman, Maryland; A. Chamberlain, New York; A. W. Clough, New Hampshire; Thomas B. Cargile, Kentucky; R. T. Chandler, Georgia; Isom J. Cox, Tennessee; J. B. Cocanour, Pennsylvania; Harry Chapman, New York; T. C. Dean, Mercer county, Kentucky; Samuel Dickenson, Missouri. Gallant Duncan Dickenson, born in Rutherford county, Pennsylvania, October 6, 1806, came to California from Missouri with his wife and family in 1846 (being but a few days in advance of the ill-fated Donner party), located in Monterey in 1847, built the first brick house in the town (which was also the first in California), went to the mines at Mokelumne Hill in 1848, his wife and two daughters being the first white women in the mines; moved to the Tuolumne river in September, 1852; bought out the ferry and built a fine hotel and boat, which he kept for many years; afterwards lived on south side of Tuolumne river, Stanislaus county; came to Merced county in 1867, and died while on a visit to Snelling, October 25, 1869. George W. Dickenson, son of the above, came with his

father to California in 1846, locating in Merced county in 1858; W. B. Dowst, Massachusetts; Charles E. Evans, Louisiana; Petor Fee, Norway. Joshua Griffith, born June 28, 1800, in Washington county, Pennsylvania, came to California in 1848, discovered Jackson creek, Amador county, November 15, 1848; located in this county in September, 1850; sowed wheat here in 1851, built small flour-mill for his own use, operated by water-powor from Merced river, in 1853; F. Gardenhire, Pennsylvania; M. Goldman, Prussia; E. T. Givens, born in Union county, Kentucky, settled on Bear creek, ten miles from the site of Merced City, in 1854, and in 1856 moved upon Mariposa creek; Levi Horne, Missouri; A. W. Hulse, New York; W. H. Hartley arrived in California in April, 1852, after a stay of fourteen weeks at Panama; came to Merced county and put in the first large crop of wheat raised in the county; W. L. Howell, Pennsylvania; John E. Hicks, Missouri; George Hayes, Maine; C. H. Huffman, Louisiana, the head of the great Crocker-Huffman canal, who is mentioned at some length, in connection with his vast work, elsewhere in this volume; G. N. Halstead, New York; John Ivett, England, whose murder caused such a sensation throughout this portion of the State; Albert Ingalsbee, New York; J. Y. Jones, Virginia; Thomas Johnson, Ireland; James Kibby, Now York; Erastus Kelsey, New York; John Keys, Virginia; Adam Kohl, Pennsylvania; Frank Larkin, New York; William L. Means, Alabama, elected Supervisor in 1879; T. A. Leggett, New York; J. M. Montgomery, who came to California in 1847, locating at Santa Clara, afterwards mined; came to what is now Merced county in 1849, he and his partnor, Samuel Scott, being among the first settlers on the Merced river; J. B. Marsh, Massachusetts; Hugh McErlane, Ireland; W. A. McCreary, Alabama; N. McFarlan, Tennessee; John L. McFarlan, Tennessee; William Nelson, who built the Merced Flouring-Mills at Merced Falls in 1854, was born in New Hampshire, December 2, 1812, and camo to California in 1850; B. Oppenheim, Germany; H. J. Ostrander, who planted an orchard and vineyard near Snelling as early as 1854, and who has been for years an advocate of fruit-planting for this county, is a native of New York; John O'Donnell, Ireland; James B. Peck, New York; L. Peak, Illinois; George W. Powell, Texas; George Russell, Connecticut; G. W. Rogers, New York; Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mississippi, who came to California in 1849, was at the California Ferry (afterward Young's Ferry) for a time in 1850; was elected first Assessor of Merced county in 1855; was Under Sheriff under George Turner; admitted to practice law in the District Court in 1861; elected to the Legislature in 1862, representing Stanislaus and Merced counties in session of 1863; elected county Judge in 1863, serving until January, 1880; John Rnddle, Missouri; Reuben Reynolds, Mississippi; Nelson Rolfe, Virginia; N. B. Stoneroad came from Arkansas to California in 1849; in the spring of 1853 he, in partnership with his father and three others, engaged in the stock business under the firm

name of Stoneroads, Cathey, McCreary & Kelly, and he located on a tract of land on Mariposa creek, about five miles from where Plainsburg stands, and established headquarters there; in the spring of 1854 Cathey and McCreary drew out, and the business was continued by Mr. Stoneroad and Mr. Kelly, under the name of Stoneroad & Kelly, until 1860, when the firm was dissolved; Mr. Stoneroad carried on the cattle business until 1869, when the settling up of the land for agricultural purposes made extensive cattle-raising on the plains impracticable; after that embarked in farming, and later in the sheep business on a large scale elsewhere; S. K. Spears, New York; J. J. Stevinson, born in Boone county, Missouri, in 1828; located where he now resides, in Merced county, August 1, 1852; he was the projector and is president of the East Side Canal and Irrigation Company; Colonel A. W. Stevinson, father of the above, also located in this county, having come up from Mexico, where he had been in the mercantile business a number of years; Edward H. Smith, New York; Samuel Scott, born in Kentucky, came to California in 1847, and in 1849 to what is now Merced county, entering into the stock business near the Merced river; he and J. M. Montgomery and James Waters were the only settlers along that stream, according to Joshua Griffith, when he located there in September, 1850; he died March 15, 1881; John C. Smith, Ohio; Robert J. Steele, who started the Merced *Banner*, the first newspaper in Merced county, at Snelling, in July, 1862; George Turner, New York; M. H. Thurman, Tennessee; Eli Thurman, Tennessee; Nicholas Turner, Tennessee; E. H. Tyson, North Carolina; William C. Turner, born in North Carolina, came to California and settled on the Merced river, in what is now Merced county, in September, 1852, where he engaged in stock-raising, also farming to some extent, and raised a good crop in 1853; L. P. Wilson, New York; Job Wheat, a native of New York, who was county Assessor from 1862 to 1864, was one of the early stockmen in this county, their nearest neighbor being fifteen miles distant on the Merced river, and the next at Montgomery's Grove; George W. Ward, Missouri; and Adam Yates, New York.

This list includes only those who were pioneers of California, as well as early settlers of Merced county, with one or two exceptions. There were of course a number who were not California pioneers, who came to this county as early as many of the above, and some of these are mentioned in the portion of this work devoted to biographies.

The experiences of these old settlers would occupy volumes in their relation, and all of them had their stories of the early times. Many of the interesting incidents are related in other connections, elsewhere in this volume.

William C. Turner came out in a party under the guidance of James Waters, via Los Angeles, Tejon Pass, Tulare Lake, and Fort Miller, to Mariposa. After crossing the San Joaquin river, they encountered large bands of wild elk, magnificent animals, with wide-spreading antlers. One of the

party, named Thomas Brul, in following one of those bands of elk got lost in a fog, and wandered about for eighteen days. When found he was on Merced river in a hollow log, his feet badly frost-bitton, uecessitatiug the amputation of some of his toes. He was taken to a New York company camped on the Merced river, and returned home to Alabama without trying his luck in the mines.

Nearly all of tho old sottlers of Merced county made a business of stock-growing. The whole southern portion of the county was used for grazing purposes, a large portion of the land being covered with a luxuriant growth of grasses, and, tho title being in the Government, the range was free and unlimited. About 1867, however, farming commenced on a scale never before attempted in the county, and whon it was demonstrated that the land was very productive of cereals settlers came in rapidly, obtained title to the land, and soon stock-growing on the old lines became unprofitable, and a complete change came over the aspect of the country.

On tho 11th of October, at Whitlock creek, John W. Childs shot and wounded a grizzly bear; and he, with Eleazer T. Givens, a pioneer of Mercod county, and two others, followed the bear and shot her again, but without killing her. Coming upon the bear in a chaparral thicket, a fight ensued, and Mr. Givens, who was close up to the bear, was badly wounded, and had his scalp half torn off. Childs, however, remained with him, and, firing threo shots into the bear at closo quarters, snceeeded in killing her.

G. D. Dickenson, after whom Dickenson's Ferry was namod, built the first hotel in Stockton, the Diekenson House, which cost $60,000, the expense of the lumber one dollar a foot. It rented for $2,500 per month.

LIVE STOOK.

Stock-growing is an industry of considerable importance in nearly all seetions of the county, notably along the streams and in the foothills and on the westside, where it may be said to have reached its perfection. Here a great deal of the land is held in large traets by wealthy owners, who can indulge themselves in whatever in the stock line might prove a source of pleasure and profit. Horses, both blooded stock and the graded or work animals do well in this region, showing that the conditions are ominently suited to their roquirements, while the cattle fed in this vicinity manifest by their sleek hides and rounded forms the nutritnious nature of the herbage.

Outside of its name, and the general knowledge that it is a vast section of great possibilities, the west side of Morced county is a *terra incognita* even to a great portion of the citizens of the county; and the fact that thero are large numbers of imported cattle and of thoroughbred and standard-bred horses of the best blood on a number of the fine ranches there is also a matter not so generally known as would bo expectod.

In the early days of the county stock-raising was almost the only industry, but to-day it is an entirely different matter. Then the stock could roam at will over the plains, which were Government land, and the "rodeo" was a feature of lifo hore at that time. Now,

with farming as the principal item of industry the conditions of stock-growing are very unlike those mentioned.

AGRICULTURE.

This has been for many years the great industry of Merced county, and in the extent and value of her agricultural products the county ranks among the first in the State.

Farming to a greater or less extent has been carried on ever since the early '50s. Some of those who had left the mines after a brief experience settled upon the plains, and each year the number increased until some portions of the county began to take on the appearance of a settled country. Nearly all these early settlers embarked in stock-raising, which had been the business of the Mexicans who had previously occupied a portion of the soil. Some of these began to farm a little by degrees, but there was no farming on an extensive scale until it began to be certain that a railroad would be built through the San Joaquin valley.

In 1867 W. H. Hartley came to this county from Stockton and rented 1,000 acres of land on Bear creek, about three miles below the present site of Merced, and began farming, being the first of the large grain growers in the county. He had considerable difficulty, however, in harvesting his first crop. Cattle were very troublesome, and had to be herded night and day to keep them from getting into and destroying the grain. About harvest time it appeared that the cattle would certainly ruin the greater part of the crop. About this time C. H. Huffman, whom he had known in Stockton and in the mining region, came along and helped him to keep the cattle off for two days, when at last he had to leave, he sent men to Mr. Hartley, with the aid of whom he succeeded in saving most of the grain, and harvested between 4,000 and 5,000 sacks that year—the harvest of 1868. This incident but shows how unprepared the country was at that day for anything like systematic farming. Of course, there was considerable friction between the stockmen and farmers for a time as the farming interest began to grow rapidly, but after the railroad came in and and the settlement of the country became very rapid, the interests of the two classes of residents began to intertwine; cattlemen began to farm to some extent, and farmers extended their stock interests so that there was no further trouble.

For the great ranches the introduction of the combined harvester proved a genuine boon, relieving them of most of the embarrassments of harvest time. Therefore if any thing occurred to cause a scarcity of labor there was much inconvenience, and prices of labor were correspondingly high, while there were many other drawbacks under the old-fashioned methods; but the combined harvester has changed all this, and the great ranches of Merced county now find the operation of placing the grain from their big ranches in the sack as small a matter as it was formerly for the small farmer to bundle his crop.

Wheat has been the great staple agricultural product of the county, and this article maintains its pre-eminence, though the other

principal cereals are raised to some extent, notably barley.

There are various statements as to who sowed the first wheat in Merced county, but it is generally credited to Joshua Griffith, who located in the county in September, 1850, and went to Santa Cruz in 1851, procuring seed wheat which he sowed on his return. As before stated, however, there were no considerable farming operations until a much later date, and in fact it seems proper to date its commencement in this county, as a separate industry, to the efforts of Mr. Hartley in 1867. On account of his intimate connection with agriculture from that time particular mention is made of Mr. Hartley in this connection.

William Henry Hartley.—The history of agricultural development in Merced county cannot be written without conspicuous reference to the gentleman whose name heads this article. Though including other branches of commercial activity along with it, it is in connection with the farming interest that his work shows most prominently. As this has been the principal factor in the money-earning capacity of the county up to this time, a brief sketch of Mr. Hartley's career, in outline form, becomes a valuable and indeed essential feature of this volume.

Though reared from childhood in the United States, Mr. Hartley is a native of England, and was born, probably in Lancashire, on the 26th day of March, 1835, his parents being Henry and Margaret (McIntosh) Hartley, the father a native of England and the mother of Scotland.

When our subject was a child his parents removed to America, locating at Lowell, Massachusetts, where his father became employed at work in connection with the mills of that city.

William H. Hartley was brought up at Lowell, and commenced work at an early age, his schooling being principally obtained at night after he had finished the labors of the day. He passed through the various gradations of employment in one of the Lowell woolen mills until he became a spinner, and was thus employed from that time until he left the East.

In the family circle the subject of going to California to try their fortunes in the gold districts became an important topic of discussion, and the ultimate result was that our subject, his father and his brother John, decided to make the venture. In November, 1851, they left Lowell, going to New York, when it was their intention to take the steamer Georgia as far as the Isthmus. This vessel, however, was so crowded that they could not secure passage on her, which compelled a delay of two weeks, at the end of which time they secured accommodations on the Rising Star, and departed on her for Chagres.

From this point to Gorgona by river the charge for transportation was $15 or upward, and the elder Mr. Hartley, who had traveled a great deal, and was thereby enabled to perceive and take advantage of circumstances in new situations which would not occur to the ordinary run of people, saw that there was an opportunity to clear some money by tem-

W. H. Hartley

porarily engaging in the business of transportation himself. Chartering three boats and taking out clearance papers he engaged native crews to operate the boats, and, putting the passage price to Gorgona down to $10, he readily secured enough passengers to make his investment a profitable one. As they progressed up the river, however, the water became very shallow, and finally it was found they could go no further, which compelled the passengers to disembark about eight miles from their intended landing place, the boats going on in charge of two guards to the boat. From this point to Gorgona the way led over the mountains, and a guide was engaged to pilot them across. Either through ignorance or a desire to extort more money out of the travelers, this guide took them out of the way, and when it was found that they were getting in difficulties another native presented himself who agreed to show them the way for $2 a head. This offer was refused by about half, and they set out dividing into two bodies, one with the guide. The elder Hartley and another man led the party which our subject joined, and after a tiresome trip they brought up in Gorgona that night. The others, however, were two days on the way, getting there the next night. Pack mules were found to be scarce, and they hired those engaged in the business to transport their baggage and effects to Panama—at five to ten cents a pound—while the travelers themselves, each retaining his blankets, made the trip afoot, which required about a day and a half. At Panama they found that the regular mail steamer which they would have taken had they left New York on the Georgia, had gone, and they were thus compelled to take their chances for a steamer to San Francisco with some 5,000 or 6,000 already there with the same destination in view; the crowded condition of the place being the result of the great emigration of 1852, already under full headway. Among those thousands there were a large number who had bought tickets only as far as Panama, thinking that they could get passage from there to San Francisco at a price which would make the total expense of the trip no greater than if they had bought through tickets. Partly as a result of this, there were a great many who were without means, and thus the railroad secured a great many recruits for its construction operations.

Though not "broke," as were these, our subject and his immediate party did not wish to remain idle, especially as it began to grow evident that their stay at Panama would probably be a long one. The senior Mr. Hartley chanced to meet a man whom he had known at Lowell, when he had kept the Pawtucket gardens, and who was now conducting a soda factory at Panama. He offered employment to the subject of this sketch, which was accepted, and he was thus employed while he remained on the Isthmus. Meantime his brother John and a friend, being familiar with plumbing work obtained a contract to lay water pipes in the streets of the city, which was carried out during their stay.

Finally, however, after a stay of fourteen weeks, they left Panama as passengers on the steamer Golden Gate, and after a voyage

which would have been a pleasant one but for yellow fever, which carried away some twenty or thirty passengers, they landed at San Francisco about the 7th of April.

Rates to Sacramento were then very low on account of a war of competition among the steamers, and after a delay of only one day they departed for the capital city, which was reached the next day.

From Sacramento they proceeded to Greenwood valley, about four miles from the American river, and began their first mining experience at Oregon bar. The March rains soon set in with a steady downpour, and the river became so high that communications with the outside world were completely shut off. As a result the supply of provisions ran short and finally it became apparent that something must be done ere they became victims to famine. They set out to cross the mountain back of them to get to Yankee Jim's, and after a fatiguing trip, which was rendered exceedingly difficult by the snow on the mountain, often slushy, slipping back with them, they finally reached Yankee Jim's. Obtaining supplies, they went back to Oregon bar.

Our subject picked out a claim by himself on the bar, and it proved to be a very good one. His father and brother meantime took up what was considered to be a very good prospect, but after working it for some time it proved to be worthless.

The father became sick and finally decided to go back East, which he did soon after.

During that fall a company of three, consisting, besides our subject, Mr. Hartley, of James Stoll, now superintendent of the large Talbott woolen mill at Balricky, Massachusetts, on the Concord river, and Thomas Cook, now deceased, left Oregon bar and went south as far as Sonora overland, where the severe winter of 1852–'53 overtook them. They could get no place to stay in Sonora, and were obliged to move as far up Woods' creek as Hamburg Flat, where they found a lot of pine trees clustered together, some of which they chopped down and with the logs constructed a cabin. This they covered with a fly tent, and finished the job with a mud chimney. The whole process of building was carried on while a heavy rain was pouring down upon them. They built the cabin there on account of its proximity to wood more than because of its closeness to the scene of their mining operations. The winter was very severe on them, not only because they could not work, but also on account of provisions becoming scarce, due to the inability of freight handlers to get into the camp with supplies.

Everything eatable became very scarce and at last they were reduced to an allowance of one potato a day. At length, however, the winter broke up. The diggings became workable, and the roads reached a condition which would allow of light travel, so that finally provisions began to come in. The first eatables were brought in on pack mules by Chinamen, and it is safe to say the Mongolians have never been more warmly welcomed than on this occasion. Soon the price of provisions got down to normal figures, and flour, which had reached $1 a pound and

then run out, got down to a bit per pound. Potatoes had reached seventy-five cents and $1 a pound. There had been an abundance of game in the region, but the miners were so handicapped by lack of guns and ammunition, as well as lack of skill in their use, so that not much relief was obtained from this source.

When things got in condition to allow of beginning work at mining, our subject and his partners started in, but after an experience of two months found there was nothing in it, and they started out prospecting. At Springfield they took up claims, and after working them for some time eventually struck it rich, the three of them taking out on an average three to five ounces of gold per day. In all, they remained there about a year and a half. In the meantime, however, Mr. Cook had sold out his interest to Messrs. Hartley and Stott, and about that time Colonel Faulkner, the proprietor of the Columbus *Gazette*, who had left Bob Steele in charge of the paper while he had gone East for cattle, came up there with a drove of about 500 Texan cattle. Just after his arrival with the drove, Messrs. Hartley and Stott, who had been down on the San Joaquin river and bought land at Graysonville, returned, and found Colonel Faulkner there with his cattle. After negotiations, they bought the drove, which Mr. Hartley took down to the ranch, while his partners remained at the mines. Soon afterward they sold out their mining interests; and Mr. Stott, desiring to go back to his Eastern home, disposed of his interest in the land and cattle to William Webster, a Mississippian. Mr. Hartley and his partner were both unacquainted with cattle-raising, and as a result, inside of two years they had lost all their cattle, while, to add to the wreck, it was found that the encroachment of a Spanish grant took away their land, thus leaving for the time with practically nothing but their blankets, after all the success in mining previously mentioned. However, they gathered together small remnants of their band of cattle found in the bogs, disposed of them, and went to Mokelumne Hill.

Then Mr. Hartley went to Lancha Plana, back from the Mokolumne river, when there had been sufficient mining success to cause quite an excitement. It was known as Big Discovery diggings. Mr. Hartley located on Poverty bar, on the opposite side from there, and started a feed yard and milk ranch. That was in the spring of 1854. He was very successful while mining continued good, and made considerable money.

Leaving Poverty bar, he went to Stockton, of which place he soon became one of the active and substantial citizens.

He embarked in the transportation business, freighting to Mokelumne Hill and West Point.

Next he took a one-eighth interest in a company of eight men organized as the Chinese Freight company, for the purpose of doing the Chinese freighting, and this proved a highly remunerative concern.

Besides, on his individual account he bought out the team of fourteen mules and three large freighting wagons of Peter Medbury, and in all was largely engaged in that

line of business until the railroad entered the San Joaquin valley.

In 1867 he came to Merced county, rented 1,000 acres of land from a man named McSwain, located on Bear creek, three miles below the Merced town site, and embarked in farming. While some farming had already been commenced, he was the first one to engage in agriculture on an extensive scale here.

Cattle were very troublesome, and had to be herded night and day to prevent their encroaching on the fields and destroying the growing grain. While thus engaged in herding, he received a call from Mr. Huffman, with whom he had long previously formed an acquaintance and friendship, and on account of this friendship, Mr. Huffman for two days helped him in the work of herding, when, finally, he had to leave, he hired men and sent them to Mr. Hastley and with this help the latter succeeded in saving a great portion of the crop. He cut between 4,000 and 5,000 sacks of grain in 1868, the season being a good one. This grain had to be hauled to Dover, on the San Joaquin river, at an expense of $4 a ton, besides feeding the teams so engaged on the ranch, while from Dover it was conveyed to Stockton by steamer, at a cost of something like $3 a ton.

The next year was a very dry one, and scarcely any grain was raised.

During that year, while retaining the 1,000 acres mentioned, he moved up adjoining Merced, on Bear creek, to what was known as the Poyzer ranch, which he rented as well as land from James Taylor, making in all 2,500 acres. That same year the town was sold by the railroad company, and E. N. Towne bought the Poyzer place, on which Mr. Hartley was then living. The Taylor land, 1,200 acres, was sold to Mr. Hubbard, the locating agent of the railroad, and this gave Mr. Hartley 800 acres more.

In 1875 he bought section 36 from J. Morrison, a brother-in-law of Stonewall Jackson, and farmed this, in addition to the various other tracts already mentioned. He also rented 1,500 acres more of W. E. Brown in 1865, and the following year bought 920 acres from Mr. Williams, of the Sacramento Mills. The next year he purchased from Mrs. Mau her place of 960 acres.

Besides all the pieces and tracts of land mentioned, he had been farming also the 800 or 900 acres of the town site, and so continues, as far as the latter is concerned, to this day.

At one time he raised wheat from 8,000 to 10,000 acres of land a year, and was the largest grower in this whole region, the magnitude of such operations being readily appreciated by those familiar with this branch.

He now farms the town site and all the tracts mentioned above as his own property, with the addition of another section bought of Robert Weaver, of Livingston, in 1889.

While carrying on farming on such a scale, however, he has also interested himself in other branches of industry.

He was a stockholder in the Merced Canal and Irrigation Company during all the time

of its construction from commencement and until the company was reorganized under its present title of the Crocker-Huffman Land and Water Company, selling out his interest in 1888. He is, in addition, a director since the original organization, of what is now the Commercial and Savings Bank, of Merced, a history of which strong institution appears in this volume. He also has other banking interests.

Besides he occupies the position of president of that well-known concern, the Grangers' Warehouse Company.

Politically, Mr. Hartley has always affiliated with the Republican party, with whose fortunes he has ever cast his lot on national issues, and locally he has served the county of Merced in the capacity of supervisor, a position for which he was highly qualified on account of his intimate acquaintance with the county and its needs, as well as by his high business qualities.

He was married in Lowell, Massachusetts, in November, 1869, to Miss Frances L. Otis, who comes from an old family of New England, and daughter of Silas Otis, who was general outside superintendent of the Lowell bleachery. Her ancestors helped fight the battles of the American Revolution, and the family is a large and prominent one in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

There is one child of this union, Mamie Emma Hartley.

Mr. Hartley is a man of quiet, unassuming demeanor, yet is generally known throughout this valley and elsewhere on account of the conspicuous position he has held for so many years in connection with the principal industry of the San Joaquin, that of agriculture. His success in that line has been marked, the more so as he learned the rudiments of the business here. Being universally ranked as one of the substantial men of the valley, and esteemed as one of the foremost citizens of Merced county, he has just cause to feel pleased with his advancement from the time when a mere youth in years, he landed in California, poor in means, but rich in enterprise and energy.

In conclusion it may be said that Mr. Hartley feels a natural interest in the welfare of the scene of his later labors, and has taken his part in all movements calculated for its advancement.

FRUIT GROWING.

There is no other subject in which the progressive people of Merced county take so much interest as in fruit-culture, for they look upon it as, to say the least, one of the future principal industries of the county.

For many years there have been individual and isolated cases where men have demonstrated thoroughly the fact that all or nearly all the fruits that can be successfully raised in California can be made to yield unusually good returns in Merced county.

Orange trees in full bearing and producing heavily of the finest varieties, are to be found in a number of places in the county and on many of the colony and other tracts about Merced, and elsewhere large numbers of orange and lemon trees have been planted with excellent results.

The olive seems to find a home in Merced,

and oil made from the seed of fruit produced on the property of Miller & Lux, west of the San Joaquin, is of the very finest quality. Olives are planted quite extensively by the orchardists of this county.

Peaches, apricots, pears, prunes, plums and almonds have all been demonstrated to be profitable articles of culture for orchardists in Merced, and are heavy items in the lists of trees which have been extensively planted.

In the vicinity of Snelling there have been for many years bearing orchards, producing apples, pears, peaches, plums, figs, almonds, pomegranates, walnuts, gooseberries, strawberries, blackberries, etc.

On the Scott place, about two miles below Snelling, on the Merced river, Samuel Scott, even before his death in 1881, had over thirty acres of these fruits in bearing, and a beautiful orchard in appearance. He had commenced planting the trees early in the '50s, and had planted and re-planted from time to time, always keeping the place in fine condition.

On behalf of H. J. Ostrander, the claim is made that he was the first orchardist in Merced county, for as far back as 1854 he planted an orchard and vineyard near Snelling, producing good results. Mr. Ostrander has ever since taken a considerable interest in fruit-growing, as is evidenced by his efforts elsewhere, notably on the Ostrander colony, in the Merced district.

J. M. Montgomery was another man who planted fruit in the vicinity of Snelling; and in fact nearly all the old settlers about there planted fruits and vines to a greater or less extent.

But the organized efforts to make this section a prominent one in the fruit-growing industry have been mostly put forth within a radius of a few miles from the city of Merced, which will, in the near future, as the large acreage already planted comes to maturity, be the center of a very considerable fruit district.

The system of colony subdivision now so much in vogue, especially since the construction of the Crocker-Huffman canal, has been a large factor in accomplishing this result. In the special edition of the Merced *Sun*, published January 1, 1892, and containing much valuable information in regard to the county, the following concise account of colony work is given:

"The colonies in Merced county comprise some 33,000 acres of land, and of this number some 6,000 acres have been sold and over half of that number planted.

"The size of the colonies and the amounts planted in each might be summarized as follows: Archer colony, 320 acres, eighty acres planted; Ashe colony, 900 acres, just laid out; British colony, 5,480 acres, 100 acres planted; Buhach colony, 1,280 acres, 510 acres planted; El Capitan colony, 1,920 acres, 185 acres planted; Deane colony, 6,020 acres, 320 acres planted; Hornitos colony, 210 acres, twenty-five acres planted; Livingston colony, 320 acres, 110 acres planted; Mitchell colony, 280 acres, 120 acres planted; Rialto colony, 320 acres, unimproved; Rotterdam colony, 3,190 acres, 1,500 acres planted; Towne colony, 960 acres, seventy acres planted; Yosemite colony, 640 acres, 260 acres planted; Los Baños

colony, about 10,000 acres, 800 acres planted; Dos Palos colony, 6,000 acres, just planted.

"Aside from the above planted, a large number of lots have been sold, which will be planted during the present winter and spring. More than this, the planting by individuals outside of colonies is considerable. J. W. Mitchell has planted about 500 acres of raisin grapes; the Buhach plantation, about 500 acres of grapes and fruit trees; C. H. Huffman, 160 acres to raisin grapes; J. B. Galland, sixty acres to grapes and fruit trees; A. C. Cacoccia, fifty acres to fruit trees and vines; W. L. Silman, forty acres in fruit trees; W. L. Means, fifty acres in orchard and vineyard; J. M. Robinson, fifty acres in orchard and vineyard, and others in various localities amount to over 500 acres, in addition to the above.

RAISIN-GRAPES.

Another industry which is expected to take prominent rank in this county is that of raisin-producing. There are all the favorable conditions of soil and climate, and there is no doubt that they can be successfully raised here in every respect. Already there is quite a large area—upwards of 3,500 acres planted in raisin-grapes, principally Muscatels and Malagas, and raisins which have already been raised and packed here bear favorable comparison with the best produced in the sections where they are the principal product.

BUHACH PLANTATION.

One of the most interesting ranches in the State of California is that of the Buhach Producing and Manufacturing Company, in Merced county. This company, with headquarters at Stockton, and of which that old pioneer of California, J. D. Peters, is president, manufactures an insect powder known to the world as "buhach," from the plant *Pyrethrum cinerariæfolium*, of the order of Composites, and, desiring to locate a ranch for its production where they could have the benefits of irrigation, selected this tract of 786 acres, under the canal of what was then the Farmers' Canal Company (now the Crocker-Huffman canal) in 1879. The soil of this tract was very sandy, and at the time of the purchase had about as cheerless and uninviting appearance as could well be imagined. But now it is one of the most beautiful cultivated tracts in the State, and the transformation accomplished has been wonderful indeed. Besides the plant for buhach manufacture, the company set out a variety of trees and vines, and nearly every thing planted has shown splendid results. In some fruits, however, the result was not as favorable as could be desired, while with others expectations were far more than realized. There are 333 acres devoted to the culture of the Pyrethrum plant, 130 acres in grapes, thirty acres in peaches, twenty acres in pears, thirty acres in apricots, plums, prunes and other fruits, seventy acres in almonds, and the remainder is in grain. About 700 acres of the land is irrigated by the waters of the Crocker-Huffman canal. On account of injury to the young growing trees and plants, by the wind drifting the sandy soil, Lombardy poplar trees were planted along the ditches, and the growth of these trees has been so rapid that, although many have been

removed, enough still remain to supply the plantation with fuel for all time.

By cultivation the character of the sandy soil has been changed and improved, the coarser particles of sand becoming pulverized or dissolved, so that the soil becomes more compact and better fitted for furnishing the properties necessary for plant growth.

RAILROADS.

The county is becoming well supplied with railroads, having now three lines, two of which run entirely through its territory, from north to south. The main line of the Southern Pacific passes through the center of the county, from northwest to southeast. West of the San Joaquin river, the west side line of the same company, commencing at Tracy, was finished through to Armona, in 1890 and 1891, making another through line through the county. The branch of the Southern Pacific system having for its terminal points Stockton and Merced, and passing through Oakdale, opens up a large and important section to railroad communication. There are other roads in prospect, and the county will ultimately be well out up with them.

IRRIGATION.

With the hundreds of thousands of acres of good soil needing only the assurance of water at all desired times to render them among the most productive in the world, the problem of irrigation presented itself to the thinking men of Merced county as the one thing necessary to make their broad plains a garden spot.

Thus it was that even in an early day, before much evidence had been given of the county's agricultural future, not to speak of the possibilities in horticulture not then dreamed of, there were isolated cases of men with the foresight and enterprise necessary to pioneer the way in irrigation.

To-day Merced county stands in the world's front rank as far as irrigation is concerned, with the finest canal system probably ever constructed for this purpose by private enterprise. The first place must be given to the Crocker-Huffman canal, not only on account of the magnitude of the undertaking, but because its work is all in this county. But it has worthy companions in the San Joaquin and Kings River Canal, and that of The East Side Canal and Irrigation Company.

All of these, and the important work and results of irrigation in this county generally are treated further on in this article in connection with the separate mention of the several enterprises.

As the initial efforts in irrigation were also the first strokes of enterprise resulting in the Crocker-Huffman canal of to-day, the company operating that property is treated first. Its history, with a brief sketch of that enterprising citizen, of Merced, C. H. Huffman, President of the company, follows:

CROCKER-HUFFMAN LAND AND WATER COMPANY.

This is the corporate title of the owner of what is now so generally known as the Crocker-Huffman canal, which is destined to play such an important part in the future development and progress of Merced county,

and like many similar important enterprises had a very humble beginning.

Some thirty-five years previous to this narrative a surveyor and civil engineer by the name of W. G. Collier, lived on a small ranch on the Merced river, at a point about twenty-five miles from Merced city. With commendable foresight he perceived the advantages that would accrue from the irrigation of this country, and at that early day undertook the construction of a canal, by means of which he hoped to carry the waters out upon the plains from the river, his idea being to dispose of the same to settlers and land owners. He seems to have miscalculated upon the magnitude of the undertaking, and never progressed far enough to run water into a ditch. However he did actually dig a small canal, but subsequently sold out his interests in the scheme to a company of farmers composed of John W. Mitchell, Cressey Bros., John Upton, J. D. Peters, M. Goldman, and others who organized what was known as the Farmers' Canal Company.

This company diverted the water of the Merced river at a point about four miles above Snelling, near Merced Falls, and distributed the same through a small canal upon the plains on the south side of the river. It was their original design, not only to furnish water to the general public but particularly to bring it on, so as to utilize it, upon their own lands. This latter ambition was never realized by this first company, but on the contrary after having expended some $180,000 on their undertaking, in a ten years' attempt to accomplish the same, they sold out to the present owners for $81,000, and from that time forward the enterprise has gone on without interruption of consequence, on a course of construction, extension and improvement until it has reached the natural outcome of such effort, that splendid system of water supply known as the Crocker-Huffman Land and Water Company of Merced. So far the efforts made might be termed merely preparatory or at best auxiliary to the great work which has been carried on since the present owners assumed charge, and here also properly commenced the actual history of the Crocker-Huffman canal. The new company was at first incorporated under the name of the Merced canal and Irrigation Company, consisting practically of C. H. Huffman of Merced and Charles Crocker of San Francisco. For many years Mr. Huffman had anticipated an opportunity to take hold of this enterprise, and had fully appreciated not only the immense value of the proposed system of irrigation, but he also understood the difficulties and magnitude of the work yet to be accomplished. With this knowledge he took prompt advantage of the occasion when it arrived; and, having sought and obtained the co-operation of Mr. Crocker, work was prosecuted with great energy, and under the immediate personal superintendence of Mr. Huffman until successfully completed. It was a long and expensive undertaking, and many almost insurmountable difficulties were met and overcome during the course of construction.

Problems of engineering, difficulties in securing proper material and men, the adverse

influences of the elements and endless other sources of delay and annoyance had to be encountered, and cannot be fully appreciated at this day when what we see before us is the accomplished fact.

The Merced Canal and Irrigation Company was incorporated with a capital stock of $2,000,000, with C. H. Huffman as president, and operations were conducted under this name until April, 1888, when it was re-incorporated under the title of the Crocker-Huffman Land and Water Company, with the same officers, but with the capital stock increased to $3,000,000. The vast plant of this system has attracted wide attention and is regarded as the finest and most complete on the Pacific coast. As before indicated when Mr. Huffman took active charge of the construction his plans were already well matured; and this, together with the fact that Mr. Crocker stood by him firmly in every stage of the operations, had a great deal to do with the successful results. The design was to run the canal from the point of inlet, near Merced Falls, across the country to the vicinity of Plainsburg, some ten miles southeast of Merced city, on the Southern Pacific railroad; and it was so surveyed as to maintain as high an elevation along the edge of the foothills as possible, thereby securing a supply to as large an area of land as was compatible with the necessary fall required to maintain the current. The entire length of the canal as planned from the point of diversion to the Chowchilla river now is fifty miles. This, however, does not properly represent the work done, as there are some 150 miles of lateral or subsidiary canals now built, as part of the system, and these are constantly being added to, as demand arises. The main canal was made sixty to seventy feet wide on the bottom, 100 feet wide on top, and ten feet deep, the carrying capacity being thus about 4,000 cubic feet per second. In the engineering of the work amongst the vast difficulties encountered during its progress, not the least was the cutting through of two tunnels, one of which with its approaches was 5,000 feet in length, the other 3,500 feet. These are twenty-two feet wide and twelve feet high, with a drop of fourteen feet to the mile. One was blasted through solid rock mostly, while the other presented equal difficulties by reason of its soft formation, and necessitated the use of some 1,250,000 feet of heavy supporting timbers. Blasting had also to be largely resorted to in the cutting of a large portion of the way through cement gravel, which is as difficult of removal as rock, and which was met with to a great extent on the line of the canal. Lake Yo Semite, into which the water from the canal empties, is an artificial reservoir, from which water is taken to supply the city of Merced as well as for irrigation, the water being conveyed to the city in iron pipes. To carry out this stupendous project was a heavy contract to undertake, and many predictions of ultimate failure were periodically made, but nevertheless it was pushed boldly to completion. A dam 4,000 feet in length was constructed of cement gravel and earth, and of sufficient thickness to give perfect security against breakage, being 275 feet wide at the base,

twenty feet wide on top, and sixty feet high, and along the crest runs a smooth road from which a splendid view of the lake and its immediate surrounndings is obtained, as well as of the city of Merced, Mount Diablo, the Coast Range and the Sierra Nevada mountains, making in all quite an interesting panorama. The name was given to the Lake Yo Semite, as its waters, coming through the canal, originally emanated from the Yo Semite valley, by the way of the Merced river. The superficial area of the lake is upwards of a square mile, and the average depth thirty feet. This reservoir was constructed at a cost of $200,000, and as much more was expended in continuing the work for the water supply system of and to Merced city, including some 3,000 tons of cast-iron pipe, hydrants, laying pipe, etc.

The main pipe, leading the water from the reservoir to the city, is sixteen inches in diameter, while the distributing pipes vary from six to eight inches. The reservoir has an elevation of ninety feet above the level of the railroad track at Merced, and as double hydrants are used in the city a fire can be quenched in any building in the city by direct pressure, without the use of steam engines. The assertion is made by well informed persons and concurred in by the fire insurance people, that Merced is the best protected city and has the most adaquate water works system on the coast.

The opening of the canal formally was made the occasion during 1888 for a great demonstration, and at the ceremony of turning in the water to the lake was participated in by some 5,000 or 6,000 people, including many from abroad. The Governor of the State and many officials representatives of the railroad company were amongst those who graced the event by their presence. The people generally were full of rejoicing at the exercises. The two men whose enterprise and capital had made success possible were present to witness the happy result of their labors, and Charles Crocker turned on the water for the first time into the reservoir.

The entire cost of the canal and water works plant was $2,000,000, and that much more was expended in the purchase of lands contiguous to the line of system. The company owned all of the equipment made necessary for construction of the plant, and had about 500 mules at work. The force of men employed at one time reached 700, while the number was always large. Owing to the personal attention given to the details of the work by the president, good work was the rule and result at every point. Besides supplying an abundance of water for city purposes, the canal furnishes sufficient to irrigate over 600,000 acres of land. A large part of the land, though almost worthless without water becomes very valuable with it. The principal object of the company now is the development of its own lands and those owned by others which come under its system, and to induce settlers to locate upon it, thus bringing it up to the highest state of profitable cultivation. This canal portends a great future for Merced county. Already the effects are visible in a degree, in the splendid results of such progress as has been made;

but this beginning of an era of prosperity, which is certain to follow, is only in its infancy. The enterpriso which made this canal a success has beon rewarded and will be more fully compensated hereafter, hut the benefit derived by the promoters is insignificant, compared to the good which will ultimately result to this county by reason of it.

Thc present officers of the Crocker-Huffman Land & Water Company are as follows: Directors: C. H. Huffman, President; Colonel C. F. Crockor, Vice-President; M. S. Huffman, W. H. Crocker, W. R. Huffman.

C. H. Huffman is a resident of Merced, and onc of the largest property holders of the county. Liko many of our pioneers he is a self-mado man, and is widely known, not only in his present location but all through thc San Joaquin valley, as a citizon of personal enterprise and public spirit. His extensive oxperience has made him a man of strong individuality, and his businoss and personal interconrse is always marked by characteristic traits. Hc has a habit of gauging his opinions with deliberation, and his convictions when once formed are strong. Ho has shown rarc executive and administrative ability, and has the reputation of boing a very dctermined worker when once he has mappod out a courso of action. Personally he is rather nndcr the average stature and wcight, with a head and face upon which timo and the vicissitudos of life have left less than the usual traces of one of his age. He is in manner to-day as fully alive to all the subjects of interest and business concerns as many men who are qnite a number of ycars his junior, keeping regular office hours, and maintaining a dirоct porsonal control of not only his own personal estate, but also the active management of tho varions extensive enterprises with which he is so intimately identified.

He was born on the 14th of July, 1829, at a point near the mouth of the Mississippi river and is now consequontly a few months over sixty-two years of age. In early boyhood he developed a desire to make his own way, and at tho tender age of ten years we find him earning his own living and acquiring a knowledge of the bnsiness on board a pilot boat at the entranco to the river. Following his experience on the river, up to his nineteenth year, his time was devoted to a seafaring life on vessels plying between America and European ports. With considerable humor, he at times recounts, in thc circle of his friend's society, the varied experiences he encountered during thesc years of travel, and undoubtedly theso lessons of the world had much to do with moulding his aftor lifo. So well had he applied himself to his profession that hc was entrusted with the position of second offlccr of a full rigged ship, at that age.

In 1846, during the war between the United States and Mexico, he was engaged to sail in the ship Susan Drew, which vcssel carried to California a portion of the now famous Colonel Stevenson's regiment. However, he concluded that the ship was unseaworthy and declined to proceed in her. Later on he saw the Drew on the mud flats at San Francisco, bcing converted into usc as a

storeship, having been condemned after the voyage. She was afterward broken up.

When the tide of emigration started West, later, as the result of tho discovery of gold, in 1849, Mr. Huffman concluded to go to California. He made his way round by the Cape Horn route, in company with other California pioneers who have become prominent business men in different sections of the State, reaching the Golden Gate beforo the expiration of the year. He remained in the city for a brief timo, and then proceeded to Sierra county and other mining centers, and spent considerable of his time and labor with the varying success of the times. Considerations of health finally compelled him to abandon mining pursuits, and he finally located at Stockton. Commencing in the business of teaming freight into the southern mines, at which business he was highly successful, he gradually built upon his modest beginning until the business assumed very large proportions, and in that and other locations he was for some twenty years prominently identified with the city as one of its business men.

In the year 1868, Mr. Huffman visited Merced county, and, being very favorably impressed with the inherent value of the soil, climate and other advantages of the locality, ho commenced to purchase the broad acres that afterward formed the nucleus of his present vast possessions of its highly fertile soil, as well as the great enterprise of which he was the originator, The Crocker-Huffman Land and Water Company.

Having taken up his residence near the town of Merced, he commenced operating in his new field of labor by becoming the agent of the late Isaac Friedlander for the purchase of grain in the San Joaquin valley, and he virtually controled all the wheat that was grown in tho valley until Mr. Friedlander's demise. After that time he abandoned the wheat buying business and devoted his efforts to the raising of wheat on a large scale, and meanwhile continued to add to his landed possessions by tho purchase from time to time of more choice lands, as opportunity presented itself. In all of these business ventures he was highly successful, and accumulated a large property.

Early in his experience with Merced lands he conceived the grand ideas of enhancing its value by means of irrigation commensurate with the requirements of the territory to be covered. Having matured his plans to his own satisfaction, he called into his councils the late Charles Crocker, and together they have been highly successful in attaining the desired end, the details of which undertaking can be fully appreciated by a perusal of the Canal and Water Company article preceding. He formed the First National Bank of Merced, and was its president from organization, until it was reorganized as the Commercial and Savings Bank of Merced, in last June, when he was retained in the chair of the new directorate.

His most favored enterprise and that which seems to attract his especial pride and interest is the canal system, of which he was the ardent promoter, and to his personal exertions is due tho remarkable consummation of

that vast undertaking; and it is a tribute to his skill and judgment in its construction that his partner, the late Charles Crocker, was wont to regard this canal as the most satisfactory enterprise with which he had been connected during his lifetime.

There is always a possibility of genius rising to fit every emergency, but, notwithstanding this axiom, the fact remains patent to all that by and through the farsightedness of Mr. Huffman and his friends, and immense outlay of capital, the county of Merced has the means at hand for an unlimited amount of advancement and prosperity, and to this extent the name of the subject of this article will always remain a milestone, marking an important turn on the road of this county's prosperity.

Mr. Huffman resides in a substantial mansion in the suburbs of the town of Merced, surrounded by his family circle consisting of his wife and children. Here night finds him invariably in the enjoyment of their society, unless absent on the affairs of his large business connections.

As Mr. Huffman has been intimately associated with the following described bank, we give its history here.

THE COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANK, OF MERCED.

This, one of the most substantial financial institutions of the county, is the successor of The First National Bank, of Merced. It is located in a fireproof brick and iron banking house, and is provided with every convenience for the safe and expeditious handling of its large business. As a national bank it was organized June 23, 1887, with a paid up capital stock of $200,000, and was partly a result of the necessities of a financial nature arising from the building of the Crocker-Huffman canal.

The change from a National to a State institution was effected June 25, 1891, and the bank then assumed its present character and name, the original board of directors and officers being re-elected. The regulations governing national banks proved a barrier to the investment of capital in a manner necessary to promote the best interests of a bank in our community, and considerations of profit in the national system having been more or less removed since organization, the stockholders and managers deemed the conversion of the bank advisable. At the date of re-organization the capital stock was increased to $300,000 paid up.

This bank ranks as one of the most solid institutions in the State, and its standing is very high. Its management and methods have been best commented upon by its constantly increasing volume of business. The officers are the same now as have held their positions of trust ever since the bank was organized. They are: C. H. Huffman, president; E. T. Dixon, vice-president; M. S. Huffman, cashier. Directors: C. F. Crocker, H. H. Hewlett, C. H. Huffman, W. H. Hartley, G. B. Cook, E. T. Dixon, G. Garibaldi.

Among the clients of the bank are many of the leading merchants and capitalists of the county, and as the prosperity of the town increases the influence of this banking house

is certain to become an important factor in the financial concerns of the valley.

THE EAST SIDE CANAL AND IRRIGATION COMPANY.

The canal property of this company is locally known as the Stevinson & Mitchell canal, and the East Side canal.

The company was incorporated in January, 1887, the first directors and corporators being as follows: James J. Stevinson, John W. Mitchell, Charles P. Harris, Samuel Stevinson and Howard H. Hogan. The principal place of business is given as Livingston, Merced county. None of the stock of this company has ever been sold. The corporation was organized for the purpose of constructing a canal, carrying on navigation on their account, renting water for irrigating and domestic purposes to others, and doing all kinds of business of that nature.

Notice to claim water for this canal was posted on the right bank of the San Joaquin river, in section 16, township 9 south, range 12 east, November, 1886, and recorded in the same month. Work was begun in January, 1887, by constructing inlet and outlet gates in Mariposa and Bear creeks. Excavation was begun on the 31st of March, 1887. The construction was done by Stevinson, Mitchell & Co., by hiring labor by the day or month, furnishing supplies, stock, constructing implements, and everything necessary to carry on a work of this character.

About 500,000 feet of lumber was used in this canal for head-gates, inlet, outlet and stop-gates. These gates cost about $50 for every thousand feet of lumber used in their construction. They were built in a very substantial manner, the frame work resting upon a sheet piling foundation, which was sunk six feet below grade. All stop-gates are so arranged as to form a bridge across the canal, and all inlet and outlet gates so as to form a bridge across the embankment, thus giving a good roadway along the embankment from the head to the terminus of the canal.

In length the main canal is twenty miles. It is forty-two feet wide on the bottom and forty-eight feet at the natural level of the ground; then there is a "berme" of five feet on each side of the canal, and next to this the bank rising about three feet above the natural surface of the ground, making it seven feet from the grade to the top of the embankments. At a point six feet from grade, the canal is seventy-four feet wide. The slope of the canal is one to one, except in very sandy ground, where it is two to one; the slope is made so steep to prevent the growth of plants, which would obstruct the flow; they will not grow in deep water. The cost of construction was about $80,000. The canal has a fall of six inches to the mile, and will easily carry and discharge 600 cubic feet per second.

No serious engineering difficulties were encountered in construction, the country being comparatively level. Some bed rock was met with which required blasting, and on part of the line some rolling ground, but these did not seriously interfere with the work. The canal was finished and water turned in on the 1st of May, 1888, a year

and a month after commencement of excavation.

About 80,000 acres of land is susceptible of irrigation from this canal, all of which can be classed as first-rate. Of this land, Director James J. Stevinson, owns about 12,000 acres, and Director John W. Mitchell, 10,000.

The present officers of the East Side Canal and Irrigation Company, are: James J. Stevinson, president; Samuel Stevinson secretary; Directors, James J. Stevinson, John W. Mitchell, Charles P. Harris, Samuel Stevinson and Howard H. Hogan.

Much credit is due the engineer who laid out and directed the work, General John W. Bost. Under his superintendence the canal was built in the best manner and without unnecessary expenditure, while some original ideas and devices of his own incorporated in the work have proven of great advantage in operation.

SAN JOAQUIN AND KING'S RIVER CANAL.

This great canal, at the time of the construction of the first portion, completed in 1871, was the most important irrigation enterprise in the State of California, and, though others have been pushed to completion since that are on an even greater scale, it continues to hold the lead in one respect at least, that of length, as it is sixty-seven miles long from its head near the junction of Fresno slough and the San Joaquin river, in Fresno county, to its terminus, at Orestimba creek, in Stanislaus county. It thus passes, in its course, entirely through Merced county, while also covering considerable ground in Fresno and Stanislaus counties. In 1871 there were thirty-eight and a half miles completed, from the head-waters to Los Banos creek, by dint of some remarkably rapid work and great push and energy. In 1877 and 1878, the extension to the Orestimba was completed, making the entire cost of the plant, with alterations, repairs and improvements, something like a million and a half of dollars. At the head of the canal are a regulating bridge, with forty feet opening, a sluiceway fifty-five feet in width between the head of the canal and an island in the river, and a brush dam about 350 feet long connecting the island with the east bank of the river. The regulating bridge has a substantial foundation on piles driven thirty to forty feet into the quicksand bed. The sluiceway on the west side of the island is arranged to permit the passage of steamers and barges during the season when the river is navigable, the vessel being drawn up the steep incline of its apron by means of the capstan.

From the main canal there are now distributing ditches, giving a total length of nearly 200 miles. There is also a "loop" canal, seven miles long, parallel to the main canal for the most part, and connecting with it at both ends, to facilitate the distribution of water to Dos Palos rancho.

The main canal is seven feet in depth, from fifty to seventy-five feet wide on the bottom, and sixty-seven feet wide on top in widest part, the fall for the first thirty-eight and a half miles being one foot to the mile, and below that six inches to the mile. The canal can irrigate 100,000 acres lying below it.

A largo portion of the water is nsed in irrigating the tracts of Millor & Lux, lying along its courso, though a great deal is sold to other parties.

THE OHOWCHILLA OANAL

is on the east side of the San Joaquin river, and derives its water from that stream at a point about two miles from Fresno slough, and terminating at Chowchilla slough, on Chowchilla ranch. It was built in 1872 by Miller & Lux, and others. It is thirty miles long, and throughout its course is five to eight miles distant from the river.

The firm of Miller & Lux have utilized the sloughs on their vast possessions in the construction of the canal system by which much of their land is watered, and the total of their irrigating enterprises makes a vast showing.

EDUCATION.

This subject receives more than ordinary attention from the citizens of Merced county, whose schools rank very high in efficiency.

The records do not show the existence of County Superintendent of Schools in this county until some two years after its organization. By the terms of the law of 1852 the assessor of each county was *ex-officio* School Superintendent, and at the first election held in the county, on the second Monday of May, 1852, J. W. Robertson was elected County Assessor. In 1855, however, the law was changed so as to make the office of County Superintendent elective, the same as in the case of other county officials. The records show that S. H. P. Ross was appointed County Superintent in February, 1857, by the Board of Supervisors.

The following have been chosen to the office of County Superintendent in the past: S. H. P. Ross, B. F. Howell, Rev. Burnett, F. J. Woodward, R. B. Huey, T. O. Ellis, M. C. Monroe, S. H. Ross (second election), J. K. Law, L. D. Stockton and E. T. Dixon. The present incumbent, Mr. J. A. Norvell, holds until 1895.

From the reports of the census year 1890, the following facts in relation to the school affairs of Merced county appear: Total number of children of school age, 1,647; number that attended school at any time during the year, 1,198, of whom four were negroes and one Chinese; number who attended only private school, 48; average daily attendance, 809; average number belonging, 875; number attending grammar grade, 274; primary grade, 1,082; total number of pupils, 1,356; number of grammar schools, 20; number of primary schools, 21; number of schoolhouses, 41; school districts, 41; number of teachers, 46; average monthly wages paid male teachers, $70; average monthly wages paid female teachers, $69; assessed valuation of taxable property, $14,159, 887; balance of school funds on hand at beginning of school year, $9,081.21; cash received from State apportionment, $15,442.35; cash received from county taxes, $19,362.15; cash received from city and district taxes, $1,036.24; cash received from miscellaneous sources, $77.75; total receipts, $44,999.70; amount paid for teachers' salaries, $25,872.75; total expenditures, $36,684.60; balance on hand at close of school year, $8,315.10; total valuation of

school property, $65,131; number of volumes in school library, 5,508.

On the 4th of June, 1863, a convention of teachers met at Snelling, and the first county institute was organized.

The first Examining Board was appointed by T. O. Ellis in 1865; and was composed as follows: Judge J. W. Robertson, Rev. J. C. Pendergast, S. K. Spears and J. C. Breen.

There is one private educational institution of magnitude in the county,—the Merced Academy, which was opened in 1888, and which has high standing as a preparatory school for college work.

MERCED CITY.

LOCATION AND ADVANTAGES.

Mereed, the principal town and county seat of Mereed county, is the most important point on the Southern Paeific railroad between Stockton and Fresno, and has a large supporting country. Much has been done towards the improvement of the lands tributary to the eity, but this process is yet only in its infaney. There ean be no doubt of the favorable location of Mereed for a prosperous inland eity. The foundation is laid so well that the ultimate results must he gratifying to those who have pinned their faith to the city. There are seores of thonsands of acres of land for which this plaee is the center, and whereon only water was needed to make them productive in a high degree. The water system is not excelled for completeness in the world; therefore there can be no doubt of the future of Mereed when the movement to develop the resources of these lands expands as it will.

Mereed is called the Fountain City, and there is evidence of the appropriatoness of the title to every passenger on the railroad trains passing through the city, as the waters of the Crocker-Huffman eanal, playing from the large fountain in the park maintained by the eanal company, close by the El Capitan hotel and railroad station, working under direct pressure from Lako Yo Semite, make a beantiful display whieh attracts all beholders.

The distanee of the city from San Francisco is 152 miles by the railroad line. The large number of handsome brick business bloeks give the place a prosperous appearanee, which is borne out by the condition of the community. There are also many handsome residences and a few whieh are espeeially fine for a eity of this size. Church and sehool buildings are also very creditable.

THE BEGINNING.

In 1870 the Contract and Finance Company, a eorporation then related to the Central Paeific Railroad Company, purehased a section of land where Merced now stands, with a view of locating a town at this point,

the location being an excellent one of account of its being on high, dry and sandy ground.

The real start of the town, however, was in 1872, when the company placed the lots on the market. On the 8th day of February of that year a public auction sale was held, which was attended by a large number of prospective investors not only from the surrounding region but from points as remote as Stockton, Sacramento and San Francisco. The town site had been laid out by survey in blocks surrounded by streets eighty feet wide, and alley-ways twenty feet in width running through them. The lots were 25 x 150 feet and 50 x 150 feet in size. A great portion of the lots in the business portion of the town were sold, and they brought prices ranging from $125 to $500. The first half-lot sold, 25 x 150 feet, was that now occupied by the Cosmopolitan saloon and restaurant, which was purchased by J. C. Smith, and which brought $575, the highest price realized in the sale. The second sale was that of the half lot adjoining, which was bought by S. T. Simon for $495.

After the auction, sales still went on rapidly, and improvements were carried on at a lively pace.

Commencing with the 1st of February, 1882, the railroad had a temporary eating and lodging house in operation, and the accommodations for guests thus afforded were supplemented by a similar effort by C. S. Evans. In April the erection of El Capitan Hotel was begun, and while it was building, the proprietors secured a palace car, which they had switched onto a side-track, and conducted it as a hotel for their guests while their fine new building was in course of erection.

A. M. Hicks opened a meat market in February, 1872, and Washburne and Macready started a livery stable about the same time. Other establishments of various kinds soon put in an appearance, and by the end of the year the town was fairly launched, and well equipped in almost every line of business.

MERCED DISTRICT.

The Board of Supervisors set Merced off as a new district in May, 1872, and appointed as officers, M. Smythe, justice of the peace, and Thomas Patterson, constable. In August, the town being entitled to two justices, R. Simpson was also appointed in that capacity.

In 1872 Merced school district was formed, but as no public school was started owing to an informality in the creation of the district, a private subscription school was started. The first session of public school commenced on the 21st of July, 1873, with a principal and assistant teacher.

ORGANIZED AS A CITY.

Merced was organized as a city by vote of the people at an election held on the 30th of March, 1889.

Officers were elected as follows: Trustees —M. D. Wood, president; W. L. Silman, E. T. Dixon, J. A. Jones, W. H. Turner; M. S. Huffman, treasurer; J. O. Blackburn, Clerk; H. L. Rapelje, marshal.

The present Board of Trustees was organized April 21, 1890. The roster of officers is now as follows: Trustees—E. T. Dixon,

President; W. L. Silman, G. Garibaldi, J. R. Jones, W. H. Turner; M. S. Huffman, Treasurer; W. O. Moore, Clerk; George M. Yoakim, Marshal.

Under city organization Merced has made considerable progress in the way of public improvement. The city owns six acres of land in the southeast portion, for which $1,000 was paid, and which is utilized as a place from which to haul dirt used in street grading. A street grader of the most approved pattern is also used on the streets. In the two months of October and November, 1891, over $5,000 was spent in the grading and graveling of streets.

Notwithstanding improvements, however, the close of 1891 found the city out of debt, and with about $7,000 in the treasury.

The city is well protected from fire in more ways than one. The splendid Crocker-Huffman water system, giving the water a pressure of ninety feet, can throw a stream of water through the double hydrants over any building in town save the El Capitan Hotel without the use of engines. But this alone is not relied upon. There is a fine fire department, and it may be truthfully said that there is no more thoroughly protected city on the Pacific coast than Merced.

The equipment of the department consists of a Silsby steamer, one hand engine, two hose reels, over 1,000 feet of hose, and two hook and ladder outfits.

The Eureka Engine Company was the original fire-fighting organization of Merced, and it did efficient service while in the field. It was disbanded on the 3d of February, 1891.

The El Capitan Hose Company is now the dependence of the city for men in case of fire. It started with the following roster of members and officers: George Conway, foreman; R. Barcroft, first assistant; Fred. Logamarsino, second assistant; Alfred Kocher, secretary; E. A. Hicks, F. J. Logamarsino, J. B. Garibaldi, E. B. Jolly, John Canevaro, Henry Lessman, D. K. Stoddard, J. L. Dronlard. The membership has rapidly increased, and is now more than double the original.

The City Hall is a two-story brick structure, occupying a ground space of 40 x 30 feet, which will be added to. It was built by public-spirited citizens of Merced, and turned over to the city as a gift. In this building the El Capitan Hose Company and their fire appliances find a home.

The Merced Cemetery Association was incorporated August 7, 1879, with six trustees; as organized, they were as follows: George E. Isaacs, president; Mrs. Rowena G. Steele, secretary; Philip Bedeson, secretary; C. E. Stevens, Robert J. Steele and H. J. Ostrander. The cemetery property is tastefully laid out and is well kept.

There are two other cemeteries adjacent to Merced,— the Masonic and Odd Fellows',— which occupy adjoining tracts. They receive the care and attention usually bestowed upon such property by their societies.

BANKS.

The Commercial and Savings Bank of Merced, which is one of the most foremost

financial institutions of the great San Joaquin valley, is mentioned at some length in the Crocker-Huffman Canal, and the history of its founder, C. H. Huffman, who has done so much for this county, elsewhere in this volume.

The Merced Bank was organized on the 6th of April, 1875, with an authorized capital of $200,000, and has since organization transacted a large commercial business. Its officers are: John Ruddle, president and director; Frank Howell, cashier and director; C. Landram, A. Ingalsbe, C. C. Nelson, A. Zirker, and James D. Price.

The Merced Security Savings Bank was incorporated March 11, 1873, its authorized capital stock being $300,000. Its officers are: G. H. Faneher, president; L. R. Faneher, vice-president; W. W. Westbay, cashier; G. H. Faneher, J. W. Mitchell, L. R. Fancher, W. A. Aldrich, W. H. Turner and W. W. Westbay, directors. This bank, like the others doing business at Merced, is a strong institution and very prosperous.

MERCED ACADEMY.

The Merced Academy was opened in January, 1888, in the city of Merced, and has since enjoyed a prosperous career. Besides the regular academic course, there is a commercial department, where a good business education may be acquired. The academy is housed in its own building, a handsome and commodious three-story structure, adjoining the Presbytorian parsonage. Prof. Albert McCalla, Ph. D., is in charge, aided by a full corps of assistants.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND GAS WORKS.

The Merced Electric Light Company was incorporated in June, 1888, with W. E. Dean, of San Francisco, as president, and D. C. Bates secretary, who are the present officers, as well. The capital stock is $100,000. The builder of the works was A. C. Swain, who still remains in charge as superintendent. The plant is one of 1,000 sixteen-candle-power lights, and is of the Heisler system. They have an engine of 300 horse-power, and a battery of two steel boilers, all of the latest and best construction, and sixteen miles of wire is used in their circuits. The full capacity of the plant is utilized in lighting the buildings and streets of Merced, and the enterprise is a success financially and otherwise.

The Merced Gas Company with a capital of $100,000, is officered the same as the Electric Light Company. The works were built by local capitalists in the summer of 1882, and passed under the control of W. E. Dean, the present principal owner, in 1884. In 1888 the Merced Gas Company was organized as at present existing. They supply the city of Merced with a good quality of coal gas, and have about six miles of mains. A. C. Swain has been superintendent since January 1, 1885.

EL CAPITAN HOTEL.

There are several hotels in Merced, but the principal one is the El Capitan, which was opened on the 1st of June, 1872, by H. A. Bloss. The object in building a hotel of this magnitude in this new town was largely to accommodate the tourist travel to the

Yo Semite valley, leaving the railroad at this point. The house, which is four stories in height and very spacious, with a large court in the center, was erected at a cost of $70,000 for the building, and $30,000 for the furnishings, and can accommodate 200 guests. Mr. Bloss died in February, 1884, after which his widow conducted the house for a year, since which time the well-known landlord, C. E. Fleming, has had control.

NEW FLOURING MILL.

At the time of this writing (April, 1892), there is a movement well under way, having for its object, the construction of a large roller mill at Merced. A number of enterprising capitalists and business men of Merced have identified themselves with the project and a determination is expressed to make the plant one that shall be capable of holding its own with the products of the fine establishments with which it will come in competition.

OTHER ITEMS.

There are in the city of Merced many conveniences for pleasure and for the transaction of business that have not been enumerated, and the city is well equipped in every way. There are fine and well-stocked stores of all descriptions, well-appointed livery stables, two warehouses of large proportions —the Huffman and the Grangers' warehouses—a number of good hotels and restaurants, and, in fact, everything that goes to make up a prosperous business town and thriving county seat of a progressive county.

SOCIETIES.

Merced Lodge, No. 208, I. O. O. F., was instituted September 21, 1872, with the following charter members: John Levinsky, Solomon Silver, Charles A. Chapman, Orchard G. Scott, Jacob Kocher, Wilson E. Elliott, Abraham I. Rosenthal, Augustus Johnson, John C. Spofford, Charles E. Evans, Richard Johnston and Sam Wyatt. The lodge has made a splendid record, and has done some noble work, one instance of which was that of supporting for fourteen and a half years the four children of John Becher, a deceased member. These children were all given the advantage of a good education, and are now self-supporting, and have repaid by their gratitude the efforts of their benefactors. The present officers are as follows: Edwin T. Hadley, J. P. G.; Edward R. Alvord, N. G.; Lawrence H. Bradley, V. G.; Abraham I. Rosenthal, treasurer; Robert N. Hughes, recording secretary; James Leonard, permanent secretary; Louis Wegner, warden; Nathaniel S. Rogers, conductor. The lodge is in splendid condition, and has a membership of 222.

San Joaquin Encampment, No. 46, I. O. O. F., was instituted February 16, 1874, with the following charter members: Samuel C. Bates, P. C. P.; Charles A. Chapman, Peter Robert Murray, William Cotterell, E. W. Stoddard, Ernest Schoenfeld, Samuel F. Deardorff. This encampment is very prosperous, has sixty-two members at last report, and is honored by having as a member the present Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of California—James Leonard. The officers at this writing are: Edward R. Alvord, C. P.; Edwin T. Hadley, H. P.;

George W. Atwood, Treasurer; James Leonard, Scribe; Abraham I. Rosenthal, S. W.; Lawrence H. Bradley, J. W.; Robert H. Wallis, O. S.; John A. Artman, I. S.; John Reininghaus, guide; George W. Landess, First W.; William B. Croop, Second W.; Theodore Diefenderfer, Third W.; William H. Hamlin, Fourth W.; Henry Clow, First G. of T.; William H. Cook, Second G. of T.

La Grange Lodge, No. 99, F. & A. M., held its first meetings under dispensation, and was organized under charter May 8, 1856, at La Grange, Stanislaus county. The charter members were: John O. Callbreath, John Meyers, William Nelson, C. M. Wells, John B. Hockett, Byron Woodworth, Samuel Hoyt, John J. Willis, A. Elkins, S. P. Simon, J. H. Cook, Thomas Payne, and others. La Grange having largely lost its early prestige of the prosperous mining days, and much of its population, the lodge declined to a great extent, and in 1873 was moved to Merced, where the first meeting was held February 15, 1873. The present officers are: Frank Horace Gould, W. M.; Charles Simon, S. W.; Hiland H. Worden, J. W.; Carter Landrum, Treasurer; James Leonard, Secretary; Aaron Badt, S. D.; John G. Elliott, J. D.; Joseph Leeson, Marshal; George B. Cook and Albert Pitzer, Stewards; George W. Yoakum, Tyler. The lodge is now in excellent condition, and has a membership of seventy-five. The present efficient secretary, James Leonard, has held that position for more than ten years consecutively.

Calaveras Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., was organized under dispensation granted September 18, 1855, at Murphy's Camp, Calaveras county; its charter was dated May 3, 1856. The original members were: Alexander H. Putney, Ira Taylor, Milton Maupin, Lewis Weber, Nathaniel W. Greene, William H. Barnes, C. K. Gillespie, Charles Johnson, W. C. Crespin, J. W. Griswold, Hugh G. Platt and A. Tibley. The first officers were: Alexander H. Putney, High Priest; Ira Taylor, King; and Milton Maupin, Scribe. The chapter was moved to Copperopolis in 1865, and the first meeting held there December 27, 1865. The change was not permanent, however, as another removal was effected a little more than two years later, to Snelling, then the county seat of Merced county, where the initial meeting was held January 8, 1868. Here the chapter made a longer stay, but finally found its permanent seat at Merced, where it first met on the 11th of March, 1874. The name was then changed to Merced Chapter. There is now a membership of forty-five, and the condition is prosperous, there being a substantial sum in the treasury. The present officers are: William L. Silman, High Priest; Robert Gracey, King; Charles E. Fleming, Scribe; Carter Landrum, Treasurer; James Leonard, Secretary; Aaron Badt, C. of H.; Albert Pitzer, P. S.; Charles Simon, R. A. C.; Adolph J. Zirker, M. of 3d V.; John H. Simonson, M. of 2d V.; Ebenezer Stoddard, M. of 1st V.; Thomas A. Hall, G.

Yo Semite Lodge, No. 30, Knights of Pythias, was instituted January 12, 1875, and its first officers were the following: Henry Newman, P. C.; C. S. Peck, C. C.;

James M. Dunlap, V. C.; George P. Lee, Prelate; C. C. Livingston, K. of R. and S.; S. A. King, M. of F.; Robert N. Hughes, M. of E.; A. J. Meany, M. at A.; E. M. Stoddard, I. G.; H. W. Freneh, O. G. This lodge beeame in time a splendid organization, and maintained the first Uniform Rank on the Pacifie coast. Another honor which it holds is that of being the first Pythian lodge on the eoast to build and own its owu hall. Pythian Castle, the property of the lodge, is a bnilding of handsome arehiteeture, and was ereeted at a cost, inelnding furnishings, of $15,500. It was built in 1884, and dedicated on the 1st of January, 1885, at 2 o'eloek P. M. The lodge is yet an important one, and has eighty members. The officers for the present term are as follows: A. G. Clough, P. C.; Frank H. Farrar, C. C.; Thomas Mack, V. C.; H. W. Freneh, Prelate; W. M. Sell, M. of E.; Thomas F. Carrigan, M. of F.; Robert N. Hughes, K. of R. and S.; D. K. Stoddard, M. at A.; A. C. Hall, I. G.; M. Goldman, O. G.; John H. Simonson, Charles Harris and Robert N. Hughes, Trustees.

Court 36, U. A. O. D., was organized with the following charter members: John Noffzizer, H. W. Leoker, John K. Becknell, William M. Hughes, George Reuter, G. Garibaldi, G. Galliani, Martin Van Horn, Gregory De Georgi, Alfred D. Turuor aud Jaeob Kocher.

Merced Lodge, No. 74, A. O. U. W., was estahlished Deeember 30, 1878, and its first officers were as follows: Hiram Newton Rucker, P. M. W.; Edward T. Dixon, M. W.; John B. Ralston, Foreman; Robert S. Clay, Overseer; Thomas C. Law, Reeorder; Edward J. Hamilton, Finaneier; Morris Goldman, Receiver; Peter R. Murray, Guide; Aaron Badt, I. S.; Joseph Leeson, O. S. Tho offieers for the present term are: John K. Becknell, P. M. W.; Thomas C. Law, M. W.; Alfred G. Clough, Foroman; Joseph Leeson, Overseer; R. F. Bartlett, Reeorder; Ahraham I. Rosenthal, Financier; Adolph J. Zirker, Receiver; James Leonard, Guide; Nicholas Breen, I. S.; George Kloinlein, O. S. There have been eight deaths among members to this time. The lodge owes nothing, aud has money in treasury. One of its members, James Leouard, has heen Distriet Deputy for ten years.

Y. M. I., No. 87, of Merced, was organized June 3, 1888, with the following charter members: T. E. Collins, W. T. Doyle, E. Huzzie, A. A. Killen, M. J. O'Brien, H. J. Droullard, C. Arnoldy, J. J. Hayes, William Fahey, J. McNamara, D. F. Griffin, P. McNamara, M. J. McGlynu, J. B. Ivors, John Ryan, Thomas Doyle, F. McMahon, M. Horan, J. M. Griffin, D. D. McAuliffe, J. C. Crowe and M. J. Nolan.

Court Fonntain City, No. 7,800, A. O. F., was organized April 24, 1890, hy S. A. D. Jones, Edwin T. Dixon and George Baudot.

Hancock Post, G. A. R. of Merced, was one of tho organizations of the past, hut not now in existenee. It had a sufficiont membership to maintain an organization, and its failure to eontinue in the field must be attributed to lack of interest.

The Chosen Friends had an organization

in Merced for a time, but were not prosperous, and at length discontinued their meetings.

The same statement applies to the lodge of the American Legion of Honor, which had an existence here for a time.

Merced Lodge, No. 76, F. & A. M., was organized at Snelling, October 12, 1865, and elected officers as follows: Elbridge G. Rector, Master; Samuel P. Jackson, S. W.; George P. Lake, J. W.; Isaac H. Jacobs, Treasurer; Peter D. Wigginton, Secretary; James M. Strong, S. D.; Coates, J. D.; William L. Means, Tyler; Ephraim J. Simon and J. Newton Ward, Stewards. This lodge went out of existence in October, 1879.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper published in Merced county was the Merced *Banner*, which issued its first number on the 5th of July, 1862, with Robert J. Steele as editor and proprietor, and Mrs. Rowena Granice Steele as assistant editor. The material employed was hauled by ox-team to Snelling from Knight's Ferry, where it had been used in the publication of the Stanilaus *Index*, a paper which had lived out a brief career of usefulness in the one-time capital of Stanislaus. The *Banner* was a Democratic paper, and had an eventful career during those troublous days of the civil war, and the office was partially destroyed by a party of men who came for that purpose in February, 1864. The material was righted as near as possible, and publication proceeded, but the proprietors soon sold out to a man named Pierce, who changed the name, but continued his publication for only a few weeks. The paper was resurrected under a new name by Fred Lawrence, who conducted it for a short time.

The Merced *Herald* commenced publication with the old *Banner* material in 1865, under the proprietorship of James W. Robertson and P. D. Wigginton. Mr. Robertson purchased the interest of his partner after six months, and was the sole proprietor until, in 1867, he sold out to L. W. Tollott. In August, 1868, R. J. Steele purchased the office and material, and conducted the *Herald* thereafter until it went out of existence, to give place to a new paper.

The San Joaquin Valley *Argus* was first published August 22, 1869, at Snelling, with a new outfit purchased by R. J. Steele, who had discontinued the Merced *Herald*, to succeed it with the new publication. The paper was moved to Merced in 1873, and the first paper issued at the new county seat on the 5th of April, not an issue having been missed. Publication was stopped in December, 1875, owing to financial troubles. In April, 1876, having re-purchased the old press and material of the defunct *Banner* and *Herald*, Mr. Steele resumed the issue of the *Argus*, and continued until April, 1877, when new troubles caused the paper to again stop. It re-appeared, however, in January, 1878, with Mrs. R. G. Steele as editor and proprietor, who published the *Argus* until it was succeeded by the *Sun* in 1891.

The *Daily Argus* was established in 1886 by Mrs. R. G. Steele, and its publication was continued by her, along with the Weekly

San Joaquin Valley *Argus*, until succeeded by the *Sun*.

The Merced *People* was first issued by Harry H. Granice on the 23d of March, 1872, who published it during its existence of a little over three months, but discontinued it on account of lack of support.

The Merced *Tribune* was started in March, 1872, by L. F. Beckworth, as a Democratic journal. Its last publisher was Edward Maddeu, who died in 1874, and the material passed into the hands of the publishers of the *Express*.

The Merced *Express* was started January 23, 1875, by the Merced Publishing Company, with the material of the late *Tribune*. This company was composed of P. D. Wigginton, A. J. Meany, Patrick Carroll, Samuel C. Bates and E. M. Stoddard, who continued as proprietors until succeeded in ownership April 17, 1875, by F. H. Farrer, who had been previously engaged as manager. In November, 1875, he sold an interest in the paper to W. P. Stoneroad. In March, 1877, the latter's brother, N. B. Stoneroad, purchased the interest of Mr. Farrar, and continued a part owner until he sold his interest to W. L. Howell. There were no further changes until January, 1882, when Joseph A. Norvell purchased the interest of Mr. Stoneroad. The firm then became W. L. Howell & Co., and so continued until 1884, when by purchase of the remaining interest Mr. Norvel became sole proprietor. The paper assumed its present size, that of an eight-column folio, with the issue of January 2, 1892. The *Express* is an able Democratic journal, and has a firm hold in Merced city and county.

The Merced County *Sun* (weekly) and the Merced *Evening Sun* (daily) are successors to the San Joaquin Valley *Argus* and the Merced *Journal* from January 19, 1891, and take the number and volume of the *Argus*, thus giving the *Sun* claim to the title of pioneer in the newspaper field for Merced county. The purchase of the two newspapers which gave way for the *Sun* was accomplished by the present owners, J. H. Rogers and C. D. Radcliffe, two very bright newspaper men, who have made both their daily and weekly issues useful and attractive. Since their start in Merced they have put in a two-revolution intermediate Campbell press, for which power is furnished by a gas engine. The special issue of the Merced County *Sun* for January 1, 1892, all set up and published in the office, and entirely free from displayed advertisements, was one of the most creditable newspaper accomplishments that California has afforded, all things considered. Brief sketches of the editors are appended:

Justus Hubbard Rogers was born April 20, 1861, in Carroll county, Illinois. He lived on a farm until fourteen years old, when he moved with his parents to Polo, Illinois, where he received a high-school education, after which he took a preparatory course at Mount Morris College. Later he attended Lake Forest University, but did not finish the literary and classical course he entered upon. In 1881-'82 he taught the Fremont (Illinois) school. In the spring of 1882 he went

to Dakota Territory and acted as deputy clerk of the District court of Aurora county until the fall of the same year, when he was elected county surveyor of Aurora county, Dakota Territory. In July, 1884, he resigned his office to go to Arizona. In the fall of the same year he came to California, where he worked at the printer's trade, which he had learned when a lad. In April, 1887, he started the Orland *News*, which paper he conducted until the fall of 1890. Selling his property at Orland he came to Merced and interested himself in the publication of the *Sun*, with C. D. Radcliffe. He was married in 1887, to Miss Minnie Hood, and is the father of two boys, one three and the other one year old.

He was secretary of the California Press Association for 1890-'91, and has done considerable miscellaneous literary work for the San Francisco press. Mr. Rogers is an able young man, and one of unusual energy. While conducting his newspaper at Orland he compiled and published the history of Colusa county, a very creditable production, and a labor of great magnitude..

Charles Daniel Radcliffe, who is associated with Mr. Rogers in the publication of the *Sun*, is a native of Illinois, born in Bureau county, in 1866. He commenced an apprenticeship to the printer's trade in 1880, and after acquiring the trade worked for four years as a type setter and reporter on various papers in Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, and Omaha, Nebraska. In 1887 he came to California, and located at Colusa, when he purchased a half-interest in the *Herald* of that place, and in the following year became its sole owner. He made a reputation in Colusa as an efficient newspaper man, which his work on the *Sun* has not lessened. He disposed of his interests in the northern county to associate himself with his present partner in the latter enterprise. He was married in December, 1887, to Miss Frances Martin.

Mr. Radcliffe, like his partner Mr. Rogers, it will be seen from the foregoing brief sketches, is a young man who has won recognition for himself by his own efforts in a field where nothing but merit can live.

The Merced *Star* is ably edited and conducted by the Messrs. Thomas and Charles Harris, both of whom are practical printers and newspaper men of experience. The Harris Brothers founded the *Star* in 1880, and its first number appeared on June 17 of that year. In politics the *Star* is Republican, and the principles of the party are ably advocated in its columns, yet the editorials cover a wide range of subjects, fully covering the issues of the day. The paper is a seven-column folio in size and form, and its appearance typographically is creditable to the publishers.

The Merced *Journal* was established April 26, 1889, and appeared regularly as a weekly journal until January, 1891, when the publisher, J. F. McSwain, sold out to and was succeeded by Messrs. Rogers & Radcliffe with the *Sun*.

OTHER TOWNS.

LOS BANOS.

THE principal town in Merced county, after Merced, is Los Baños. This is an old town, and has long been a good trading point on the West Side. The building of the San Joaquin and King's River canal gave an impetus to its growth that helped its importance considerably.

The Los Baños of to-day, however, is a new town. The extension of the West Side line of the Southern Pacific railroad to Armona in 1890 and 1891, caused, as is usually the case, a new laying out and new arrangement, and the firm of Miller & Lux have taken an interest in building up the town which has redounded greatly to its advantage.

There are a number of new and handsome brick blocks, among which are a fine hotel, the Los Baños, and a bank building with public hall overhead, both erected by Miller & Lux.

There are also two church buildings which are architecturally very creditable, a school which is among the very best in the county, and an enterprising and well-edited weekly newspaper.

Among the advantages enjoyed by this live town are well-equipped water and electric-light works, supplying two of the most important essentials in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

Adjoining the town is the Los Baños colony, on which a large number of families have settled.

Los Baños draws a large trade from the country to the east, south and west, and is the best business point on the line of railroad from Tracy to Armona. It has a thrifty, energetic air, and is generally regarded as having a bright future in prospect.

MERCED FALLS.

At the commencement of the foothills, twenty-one miles from the city of Merced, and at the dam on the river of the same name, is the thriving village of Merced Falls,

which has long been a manufacturing place of importance.

William Nelson, a New Hampshire millwright, who had come to California in 1850, located here early in 1854, and in March of that year constructed a flouring-mill. In 1866 he took his son Henry into partnership, and since that time the firm has been Nelson & Son.

In 1867 they formed a company and built a woolen mill near by, which commenced operations early in 1868.

On the 1st of April, 1872, fire broke out in the woolen mills, and soon both woolen and flour mill were in ruins. The loss on the woolen mills, machinery and stock was $67,000; insurance $35,000. Loss on flour-mill, machinery and stock, $12,500; insurance $5,500.

The flour-mills of Nelson & Son were rebuilt on a larger scale than before, and improvements have been made since from time to time as occasion has required.

The woolen mills were not at once rebuilt, but in 1874 the Merced Woolen Mills Company was organized, with P. D. Wigginton, Albert Ingalsbee, C. S. Peck, James Morton and I. H. Jacobs as directors, and this company at once proceeded to erect a new factory near the site of the old mills. The company has ever since continued to do a large business.

The other resources of the town are the farming and grazing interests of the surrounding country.

SNELLING.

This is the oldest town in the county and the former county seat. It is beautifully located on the north bank of the Merced river, about eighteen miles in a northerly direction from Merced city. The first settlers on the site were John M. Montgomery, Samuel Scott, and Dr. David W. Lewis. The latter gentleman kept the first hotel, which was a very primitive structure.

In the fall of 1851 the Snelling family moved there, and Mr. Snelling built a large frame hotel to succeed the one previously mentioned, which took the name of the Snelling Hotel. From Mr. Snelling, the proprietor of this hotel, the place took its name. At the election held in September, 1855, for the purpose of selecting a location for the county seat to succeed that of the Turner & Osborne ranch, the original seat of justice, Snelling proved the successful competitor, and a town was regularly laid out, Mr. Snelling donating the land for county building purposes. During the two years following there was constant improvement, as many people came to settle at the county seat, and in addition to residence and business buildings a courthouse and jail were erected.

Snelling remained the county seat until the 1st of January, 1873. On the 12th of the month preceding, at a special election held for the purpose of selecting a new location, Merced had carried off the honors, and despite an injunction obtained by the Snelling people the removal was effected with the close of the year.

This event naturally took away much of the importance of Snelling, but the town is

still a good business point, being surrounded by fine farming land.

The flood of 1861-62 did considerable damage at Snelling, destroying the hotel, together with other business and residence properties.

On September 12, 1862, a destructive fire laid a considerable portion of the town in ashes, one of the buildings to suffer being the hotel of E. Prince, erected after the flood of the preceding winter.

The first newspaper in the county was issued at Snelling, under the name of the Merced *Banner*, with R. J. Steele as proprietor and he and his wife editors. The material was hauled by ox team from Knight's Ferry, where it had been previously used in the publication of the Stanslaus *Index*. The name of the paper was afterwards changed to the San Joaquin Valley *Argus*, and it was removed to the city of Merced in 1873.

At this writing there are in Snelling four stores, a livery barn, blacksmith shop, etc., and the pioneer hotel of the county, the Gault House, which has been kept by the present proprietor, Mrs. Anderson, since 1864.

The Merced City Flour Mills are located on the Merced river, two miles from Snelling, and are the oldest mills in the county. They were established by H. J. Ostrander, who also located the first water right on the Merced river, the water being used to operate the mills. This institution is equipped with the roller process, and has a capacity of fifty-five barrels per day. The proprietor is Frank Howell.

Willow Lodge, No. 121, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Snelling August 22, 1869, with the following officers: R. R. Leake, N. G.; N. Breen, V. G.; G. W. Robertson, Secretary, and George Turner, Treasurer. The corner stone of the lodge building was laid with appropriate ceremonies September 3, 1869. The officers of 1892, are: G. Latour, N. G.; R. J. Scott, V. G.; G. Halstead, Secretary; J. Pruitt, Treasurer; T. J. Ramsey, C.; H. P. Field, R. S. N. G.; C. Galto, L. S. N. G.; A. Jacobs, R. S. V. G.; A. Thomas, L. S. V. G.; T. Connor, R. S. T.; W. M. Jacobs, L. S. T.; E. Latour, I. G.; L. P. Wilson, O. S.

Merced Lodge, F. & A. M., was instituted at Snelling, August 12, 1865, with the following officers: E. G. Rector, W. M.; S. P. Jackson, S. W.; George P. Lake, J. W.; J. M. Strong, S. D.; N. L. Coats, J. D.; I. H. Jacobs, Treasurer; W. Mayrs, Tyler, P. D. Wigginton, Secretary.

Calaveras Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., which was organized under dispensation September 18, 1855, and chartered May 3, 1856, at Murphy's Camp, Calaveras county, and which had been removed to Copperopolis in 1865, was located at Snelling in January, 1868, where it remained until March, 1874, when it was finally moved to Merced, its present location.

VOLTA.

A prosperous village of about 200 inhabitants is on the west side of the Southern Pacific railroad. It is directly opposite Pacheco Pass, and is the shipping point for a large territory lying between that tributary to Newman and Los Baños. The climate hereabouts is excellent, and on account of this

and other advantages the prospects of the town are considered as favorable.

PLAINSBURG.

This is a small but old village in the southeastern part of the county, lying about three and one-half miles from the Southern Pacific railroad line on Mariposa creek.

It has been for many years a trading point and still does considerable business, being surrounded by a rich farming country.

ATHLONE

is a railroad station about ten miles southeast of Merced, and has warehouses, hotel and business houses. This place cut off considerable trade from Plainsburg, which is but a few miles away, and off the railroad. It is the shipping point for that village.

LIVINGSTON

is located on the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad, fourteen miles northwest of Merced. It is a good shipping point and is the headquarters of the East Side Canal & Irrigation Company, which is mentioned elsewhere in this work at some length. Livingston received 236 votes in the county seat election of December, 1872.

ATWATER

is seven miles northwest of Merced, on the main line of railroad and has been brought into prominence by the colony and fruit interests of the vicinity.

DOS PALOS

is located on the west side line of the Southern Pacific railroad, and has been entirely built since the construction of the extension of that road to Armona. It is now a thriving place, and in its vicinity is the flourishing Dos Palos colony.

INGOMAR

is another town on the same line which is supported by the surrounding country, and which is destined to be thickly settled according to appearances.

STANISLAUS COUNTY.

BOUNDARIES.

Stanislaus county extends diagonally and in irregular shape completely across the San Joaquin valley, and from the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas on the east to the summit of the Coast Range on the west.

It is bounded on the northwest by San Joaquin county, on the northeast by Calaveras and Tuolumne, on the southeast by Merced, and on the southwest by Santa Clara.

Though the topography is broken on the eastern and western extremities, there is but a very small proportion of its 1,350 square miles of area that is not susceptible to cultivation. The county averages between twenty and thirty miles in width, and about sixty miles in length across the valley.

NATURAL WATER COURSES.

The principal river watering the county is the San Joaquin, which here follows its general direction—from southeast to northwest.

This river, the second in importance in the State,—its rank being next to the Sacramento,—is not now navigated by steamers within the limits of this county, though in days gone by small craft have passed up considerably farther than the southern borders of Stanislaus. There are schemes now under consideration, too, by which there may again be navigation for the greater portion of the year from a point not far from Fresno to the river's mouth.

The San Joaquin furnishes an outlet for all the streams of the county. Those of the west side are not perennial, though furnishing large volumes of water at times during the winter season. The principal of those are the Orestimba and the Arroyo del Puerto creek, though there are others running only in the winter which lose their identity before reaching any larger streams. The north fork of the Orestimba, rising near the Red Mountains of the Coast Range, runs about ten miles in a southeasterly direction, and there meets the south fork, whose source is some

eight miles distant. From the point of junction the general course is eastward until the San Joaquin is reached. The Arroyo del Puerto creek also has its source in the Coast Range, down whose cañons it flows, its entrance to the level lands being through a natural pass in the mountain resembling a doorway: hence the name "Puerto," meaning "door." Its general course is the same as that of the Orestimba. The Adobe Crow and El Salada creeks all have their origin in the Coast Range, and have no well defined outlet.

The streams flowing into the San Joaquin from the east side are two in number, and both are of sufficient importance to be dignified by the title of "river"—the Tuolumne and the Stanislaus.

The Tuolumne river has its source in the mountains of Tuolumne county, out of which it comes through a forbidding cañon, below which it is flanked by foothills merging into rolling lands, and then into a plain standing from fifty to eighty feet above its water surface for twenty miles below the cañon proper. Thence the plain falls to the trough of the valley, where the river flows between banks only fifteen to twenty feet in height. The general direction of the river from its cañon to the San Joaquin is nearly due west, and the distance in a straight line is about forty-two miles, for thirty miles of which it is bordered by plains sufficiently even of surface to admit of irrigation on a large scale, though its bottom lands are very limited as compared with those of other rivers.

Flowing into the Tuolumne river is Dry creek, which is quite an important stream, having its origin in the Sierra Nevada foothills near the eastern boundary of the county, receiving contributions from the cañons in the hills. Running in a southwesterly course, in some places parallel to the Tuolumne, it empties into that river at a point only a quarter of a mile distant from Modesto. Near its source the bed and sides are generally of a rocky character, and further down, the bed is of sand. In summer the water does not run, yet it stands in places in large quantities, while in winter, though the creek often carries a large volume of water, its banks are so high that it never overflows.

The Stanislaus river is an important stream, its volume of discharge being very large, and the opportunities afforded by it for irrigation being of great consequence. It has its source well up in the Sierra Nevadas, and, flowing in a southwesterly direction, empties into the San Joaquin at the place where the latter river crosses the line between Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties.

On leaving the foothills the Stanislaus lies in a deep trough 100 to 150 feet below the general level of the plains, and is bordered by a very narrow belt of bottom lands. On its further course across the valley its grade is so much less than that of the adjacent plains, that on reaching the railroad the low water level is but forty to fifty feet below the plains on either side. Throughout the lower portions of its course the channel is very narrow, in places not exceeding sixty to eighty feet in width, and totally incapable of carrying the volume of its flood discharge, so that the

bottom lands are now and again subject to overflow.

Littlejohn's creek rises in the Bear Mountain range, in Calaveras county, and enters the northeastern portion of Stanislaus county, a few miles above Mountain Brow. Its length in this county is about fifteen miles, and then it runs into San Joaquin county, its waters eventually reaching the San Joaquin river through French Camp and Stockton sloughs. It runs only a portion of the year.

Rock creek enters Stanislaus county from the north, takes a southerly course toward Littlejohn's creek until it runs within a mile of the latter, and thence, taking a westerly course, enters San Joaquin county. It takes its name from the rocky character of its banks and bottom in places.

MEXICAN GRANTS.

Within the limits of Stanislaus county there are five Mexican grants, the titles to which were approved by the United States Goverment, and patents issued. Two of these lie in the northern part of the county, along the Stanislaus river, viz.: the Rancheria del Rio Estanislaus, granted to Pico and Castro, containing 36,300 acres; and Thompson's Rancho, to A. B. Thompson, 30,952.8 acres. The remaining three grants are on the west side of the San Joaquin, as follows: El Pescadero, to Hiram Grimes and others, 16,146 acres; Orestimba, to Sebastian Nunez, 16,500 acres; Rancho del Puerto, to Reed and Wade, 13,340 acres. These grants are all subdivided, and many of them are now cut up into comparatively small tracts, containing many good farms.

ORGANIZATION.

At the session of the Legislature of California for 1854, the first regular steps for the formation of Stanislaus county were taken.

The divergent interests of the running sections as distinguished from the agricultural and pastoral regions, may be assumed as affording the principal cause for the sentiment in favor of county division, but other reasons existed which may have been of equal importance.

In a county of the large dimensions of Tuolumne at this time, there are necessarily some districts so remote from the county seat of government that many citizens are at great inconvenience in transacting their business with the county. Another element in favor of division is afforded by the desire of ambitious towns or their promoters, to obtain additional importance for themselves as county seats. However, at this particular time there was a condition of affairs which might well be considered as important in this connection. The following extract from the Sacramento *Union* of March 23, 1854, bears on this point:

"The most important movement to be found in the legislative proceedings of yesterday was the effort in the Senate to rush through a bill creating the new county of Stanislaus out of portions of Tuolumne county, and providing for the creation and election of another State Senator. Had the movement succeeded, the presumption is that an election could have been ordered at the earliest possible moment for the return of that officer, and by the aid of such influences as would have

been brought to bear to secure him of the right stripe, it was hoped that the preponderance which this vote would give the Broderick party in the Senate would force an election of United States Senators upon the Legislature during its present session. A glance at our regular Senate report will show how signally the effort failed."

B. D. Horr, at that time a Broderick Democrat and representative from Tuolumne county, and resident of the Stanislaus district, introduced a petition from citizens of the proposed county before the Legislature, then sitting at Benicia, on the 26th of January, 1854, praying for the creation of Stanislaus county; and this was the initial step in the programme which, after much opposition, was finally successful.

On the 16th of March, 1854, the House of Representatives passed the bill for the creation of the new county, with amendments, and on the 18th, having been returned from the committee on engrossment with a satisfactory report, it was sent to the Senate.

After amendment by that body, the bill was passed by the Senate March 27, and on the following day returned to the House for final action.

That body concurred in the changes made, and the bill was sent to the Governor, who returned it to the House approved on the 4th of April, his favorable action having been taken on the first day of that month.

The act allotting to the new county its representation in the House of Representatives and State Senate, was passed and approved April 5, 1854.

The Board of Commissioners provided for and named in this act consisted of the following: John D. Patterson, Eli S. Marvin, G. D. Dickinson, John W. Laird and Richard Harmer. These gentlemen met and organized at Dickinson's Ferry on the 29th of May, 1854, and there designated election precincts and appointed inspectors and judges of the election to be held on the 10th of June following.

FIRST ELECTION.

The election was accordingly held on that day, which was Saturday, and Adamsville, a town which had started up in the winter of 1849–'50 on land belonging to Dr. Adams, near the site of the old town of Westport, was declared the seat of justice of the new county.

The officers chosen were: H. W. Wallis, County Judge; William D. Kirk, Sheriff; R. McGarvey, Clerk; W. H. Martin, Treasurer; S. P. Scaniker, District Attorney; E. B. Beard, Assessor; Silas Wilcox, Surveyor; Heth Williams, Coroner; E. B. Beard, Superintendent of Schools; R. McGarvey, Recorder and Auditor. J. W. Coffroth was the first State Senator, and C. W. Cook the first Assemblyman.

On the 15th of June, 1854, the Board of Commissioners met at Empire City and canvassed the votes, after which the result was declared as above.

Hon. H. W. Wallis qualified before the president of the board as County Judge, and the next day entered upon the discharge of his duties, after which, and all within the

next few days, the other newly elected county officers qualified before Judge Wallis.

THE COUNTY SEAT.

Adamsville, which was but a hamlet in proportions, afforded few conveniences for the transaction of official business, and the first court was held out of doors, under a large tree, close to town.

FIRST OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

The Court of Sessions was composed of Judge W. H. Wallis, presiding, with Eli S. Marvin and James Burney as associates. The duties of this court were similar to those now devolving upon a Board of Supervisors, and the first official act of this so-called court was in relation to a public highway, on the 3d day of July, 1854.

The first lawsuit that come up for adjudication in the new county was in relation to some stock, and it was decided, after a hard contest, in favor of the plaintiff.

The first bill allowed against the county was that of Le Count & Strong, for stationery furnished, to the amount of $119.

FIRST GRAND JURY.

The first grand jury of Stanislaus county, which met in 1855, consisted of Franklin Summers, E. M. Casey, N. W. Wells, T. C. Jones, Charles Storrer, G. Bullard, J. McElvane, J. H. Gardenhier, D. Gilbert, Mark Anderson, J. W. Brooks, Thomas Roe, R. B. Hewey, Peter Nye, J. W. Highlower, T. M. Rennon, William Browder, J. O. Rollins, J. Durham and E. B. Beard.

The first indictment returned by this body for the crime of murder was against William Gregory, for the killing of R. Hall, August 7, 1855.

Gregory was tried before Judge C. M. Creanor, and found guilty, August 25, 1855, by a jury composed of William Sharp, E. Durham, L. Brown, Joseph Huddleston, Joseph Southard, Josiah Covey, T. F. McMillan, James McClothin, J. Summers, A. A. Carter, S. S. Hawthorn and D. Brailey. S. P. Scaniker, District Attorney, prosecuted the case, while Messrs. Marvin and Oliver represented the defendant during the trial. The verdict of the jury was "guilty of murder in the first degree," and Judge Creanor sentenced Gregory to be hung.

COUNTY SEAT REMOVAL.

In the first year of the existence of Stanislaus as a county, agitation for the removal of the seat of government commenced. The county was sparsely settled, and different persons favored removal of the county seat to their respective localities without any particular regard to the convenience of the general public.

Empire City, where Eli S. Marvin had large interests, loomed up as a strong rival to Adamsville, whose principal defender was Dr. Adams. The contest was, as is usually the case, a bitter one, and it was charged that money was freely used on both sides to influence the result of the election, which took place in November, 1854.

The election resulted in favor of Empire City, and the removal of the county seat to that place gave Adamsville a set-back from which the place never recovered.

Empire City was at this time a shipping

point for the mines, and was a good business center. At one time its population reached 500 souls, and the place contained a number of creditable buildings, among the number being a hotel of sixty rooms, which had been constructed in Boston and shipped around Cape Horn, all ready to be joined together on reaching its allotted location in California.

The law creating the Board of Supervisors went into effect in 1855, and the election for members resulted in the choice of D. B. Gardner, John M. Newsom and Robert Smith, who constituted the first Board. The first session was held at Empire City.

THIRD COUNTY SEAT.

This town was not destined to hold its prestige as the seat of government very long undisputed, as the growing town of La Grange concluded to try for the prize for itself. The movement inaugurated was pushed with such purpose that, all necessary preliminary steps having been taken, an election was held for the purpose of determining the question on the 20th of December, 1855, at which La Grange received 558 votes to 139 for Empire City. December 31, 1855, the Board of Supervisors passed an order for the removal of the archives to La Grange, which was carried out, and in January, 1856, La Grange became the seat of government.

John Meyers, a citizen of this town, had a large frame house which was considered to be sufficiently commodious for courthouse purposes, and it was purchased of him for $1,700 and put to such use, answering the purpose as long as the county seat remained at La Grange.

KNIGHT'S FERRY BECOMES THE COUNTY SEAT.

In the Legislature of 1860 the next steps were taken having any tendency toward further change in the county seat location. At this session Hon. Miner Walden made a strong fight and a successful one for the annexation to Stanislaus, of all that portion of San Joaquin county lying east of the range line between ranges 8 and 10 east, including the town of Knight's Ferry. This town, on account of its agricultural and mining interests, was a place of considerable importance, and somewhat of a depot for trade with the mines. It had considerable of a population, a large proportion of the taxable wealth of the county, and a number of men of means and enterprise, who soon set about securing the seat of government. This was no easy task, as La Grange, which had made one successful fight for the honor, was still an important and populous place.

However, the question was eventually brought to the point of issue, and the most important election yet held in connection with this subject took place in September, 1862. Both sides were confident, though it was anticipated that the contest would be a close one. A count of ballots showed that Knight's Ferry had received 422 votes to 393 for La Grange.

Thus Knight's Ferry became the seat of justice for Stanislaus county, and she was destined to hold it longer than had any of her predecessors.

FINAL REMOVAL TO MODESTO.

The construction of the Central Pacific railroad line north and south through the

heart of the county in 1870, however, brought a new Richmond into the field in the town of Modesto, which rapidly became important and soon began to assume airs.

Situated in the valley portion of the county, and in the midst of a region which had already begun to assume importance on account of its advantages for agricultural purposes, the new town seemed to be the natural center for the farming community of the large valley region, and it received quite an impetus from the movement which resulted in the almost virtual bodily removal to it of the town of Paradise and Tuolumne City.

All this section of the county made common cause in an effort to have the county seat removed to Modesto. The election of 1871 was approaching, and the excitement became great on the question. There were many reasons advanced for the removal, while those against the proposition relied mainly upon that of expense, calling attention that the county seat had been many times removed at considerable cost, and that now, while the county possessed suitable and expensive buildings at Knight's Ferry, and while the permanent centers of population were not yet definitely determined, was a bad time to make any further change.

Other places entered with the fight, and one, Oakdale, seemed to have considerable following. The election came off in September, 1871, and resulted as follows: Modesto, 893 votes; Knight's Ferry, 340; Oakdale, 79; Waterford, 12; La Grange, 3; and Graysonville, 2.

After all this changing, the seat of government reached a place which is now conceded by all hands to be the proper one, and strange to relate, only three miles from its first location at Adamsville.

In the spring of 1872 the actual removal of the county seat took place, and with it came the county officers and their families to Modesto.

A one-story frame building on the corner of Eighth and I streets was used temporarily for county purposes, and a brick vault was built for the safe deposit of the county records. The shoriff had his office in one of the small buildings adjoining, and the other officers were located within easy distance of the temporary courthouse.

As it became apparent that more room for the transaction of county business was imperatively needed, new quarters were sought and obtained. The Board of Supervisors ordered the removal of the records, etc., to Eastin's Hotel, which had been fitted up for a clerk's office and court-room. The sheriff had an office down stairs. This arrangement proved quite convenient all round after the experience in the cramped quarters previously occupied.

Provision was made by the Board of Supervisors for the construction of a substantial county building; and work was begun in 1872. In the following year the building was completed and furnished, and the officers took possession. The building and furnishings complete cost, in round figures, $60,000.

The architecture is handsome and appropriate to the purpose for which the building was designed. It is three stories in height

and occupies a prominent location in the center of a block 300 by 400 feet in dimensions. The architect was A. A. Bennett, of San Francisco, and Robinson Bros., of Stockton, were the contractors.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

The first State superintendent of schools in California was John G. Marvin, the lawyer, who was a resident of Empire, then in Tuolumne county, but afterward in Stanislaus. His term of office commenced January 1, 1851, and expired December 30, 1853. He died December 10, 1857.

The second superintendent of schools of California was, like his predecessor, from that portion of Tuolumne county afterward set off into Stanislaus. He was Hon. Paul K. Hubble, who lived for a time on the Stanislaus river, near the present site of Oakdale. He took office January 1, 1854, and his term expired December 30, 1856. He died November 17, 1874.

The first authenticated record of an organized school held within the present limits of Stanislaus county is in regard to that established near the confluence of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers, in 1853, by John W. Laird a well known pioneer, who was a resident of this region in 1846.

The first building in Stanislaus county for public-school purposes was erected in 1854, though the fund for the purpose was obtained by subscription from the residents of the neighborhood in which it was built. Its location was close by Newsom's bridge across the Orestimba creek, and it was a small affair.

The first teachers' institute in Stanislaus county met in Modesto, March 21, 1871, and continued in session three days, being presided over by County Superintendent B. F. Haslip. There were twenty-eight teachers in attendance.

The first board of education of Stanislaus county was appointed by the Board of Supervisors in 1880, and consisted of the following: W. B. Howard, Vital E. Bangs, I. L. Granger and W. S. Chase. The first meeting of this Board was held at Modesto, May 8, 1880, where an organization was effected, with W. S. Chase as chairman.

Stanislaus county has one of the ablest educators of the State as county superintendent of schools in Dr. W. B. Howard, who enjoys the thorough respect and confidence of teachers and citizens alike, and he has an efficient assistant in Mrs. Howard, who has acquired a complete knowledge and mastery of the school affairs of the county.

Taking the census year 1890 as a basis the schools and school matters of Stanislaus county make the following showing:

Number of white children between the ages of five and seventeen years, 2,368; number of negro children, same age limits, nine; number of Indian children under white guardianship, same ages, 7; native-born Chinese children, same age limits, fourteen; total, 2,398; number of children between ages of five and seventeen who attended public school at any time during year, 1,856; children who attended only private school during year, eighteen; number who did not attend school, 524; number enrolled in public

schools, 2,051; average number belonging, 1,454; average number attending, 1,336; number of scholars of high-school grade, forty-two; grammar-school course, ten; grammar grade, 506; primary grade, 1,493; number of high schools, one; grammar-school course schools, one; grammar schools, thirty-four; primary schools, thirty-two; total number of schools in county, sixty-eight; number of districts, fifty-two; average number of months of school in all county schools, eight; total number of teachers, sixty-eight; average monthly wages paid male teachers, $81.50; female teachers, $65; of money in county school fund at beginning of school year of 1890, $8,118.04; cash received from State apportionment, $22,900.80; cash received from county taxes, $22,472.59; cash received from city and district taxes, $14,828.34; from miscellaneous sources, $242.50; total receipts, $68,562.27; total valuation of school property, $96,130.00; number of volumes in school library, 6,733.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first settlements in Stanislaus county were principally confined to the neighborhood of the rivers, and in early days the banks of the Tuolumne were most favored in this respect. Among the first on this river may be mentioned Dr. John Strentzel, from Texas; Harvey Davis, a permanent settler, whose location was below that of Strentzel; Charles Dallas, from Iowa, settled below Davis; C. W. Cook, from Tennessee, who located a few miles below La Grange at a cottonwood grove; George W. Branch, from Texas, who established a ferry which took his name; James Dickinson, who established Dickinson's ferry, was from Missouri. Other settlers along the Tuolumne were N. W. Wells, who was an early merchant at Tuolumne city; Jacob Gardenshire, Daniel Golden, G. M. Bon, Marion Norbon, Eli S. Marvin, Dr. Adams of Adamsville, the Summers family, Dr. Booth, J. H. Barham, B. D. Horr, and Messrs. Pettibone, Peck, Kirkland, Browder, Young, Hudelson, Morley, McMullen, Delaney, Rowe and others.

Among the first settlers along the San Joaquin river were; John M. Hewson, John W. Laird, J. D. Patterson, Hon. J. W. Van Benschoten (who was elected to the Legislature in 1849), Jesse Hill and Thomas Wilson.

The lands along the Stanislaus river were not so thickly settled as was the neighborhood of the Tuolumne during the early days, but nevertheless there were some well kept places along its banks. Among the early settlers on this river were: Samuel Miller, Robert McHenry, T. D. Heiskell, Thomas Richardson, Messrs. Keeler, Gardner, Cottle, Loitch and others.

SOME EARLY TROUBLES.

Stock-stealing was of sufficiently frequent occurrence in the early days of the county to be a source of much annoyance to owners, and at times searching parties were organized to endeavor to hunt down the thieves. In 1854 a party of settlers, among whom were H. G. James, J. W. Laird, J. M. Van Benschoten, R. B. Smith and others, came upon a band of six Mexican cattle thieves, of whom they were in search at a point on the west side

near Grayson, and a running fight soon began, during which some twenty shots were fired. Three Mexicans were hung according to the regulations and ceremonies of Judge Lynch, on the 20th of May, 1856, their crime being cattle stealing. The scene of the execution was the west side of the San Joaquin, two miles above Orostimba.

In a fight between settlers and robbers in the Coast Range, back of Grayson, April 21, 1858, William Francis Lane, of the settlers' party, was killed.

A prisoner in the county jail at La Grange was afterward identified as one of the robbers' gang, and he was taken out of jail by a band of citizens one night in June, 1858, and hanged to the limb of a tree.

George Worth, Sheriff of Tuolumne county, was killed at Adamsville in 1854, by Earley Lyons.

Other dark deeds of the early days are mentioned in connection with the history of the localities of their occurrence.

PRODUCTS OF THE COUNTY.

In times past mining was a considerable industry in portions of the territory now embraced within the limits of Stanislaus county, notably about Knight's Ferry and La Grange, and then gold was one of the principal products. But mining has seen its day, as far as this county is concerned, and now the tillage of the soil is depended upon for the production of the wealth of Stanislaus.

Steadily the progress of agricultural development has been going on until it has finally achieved a remarkable status, and from boundary to boundary it may justly be said to comprise one great grain field.

Of course there is a large amount of stock raised in the county, and especially in the hilly districts, consisting principally of cattle, horses and mules, but there is hardly a rancher who does not raise grain to a considerable extent.

That the field of agriculture is a favorable one may best be judged from the fact that the farmers are as a rule prosperous, the majority of them having made their start in this county, and from the further fact that a large percentage of them, besides cultivating the area to which they claim ownership, rent from non-residents, where possible, and thus handle as large acreage as they can look after, while men who rent from others all the land they own are each year entering the ranks of land-owners, buying with the profits of farming.

Wheat is the great staple of Stanislaus county, and in the production of this cereal she stands in the very front rank of California. Barley is also a very heavy item.

That portion of the county lying east of the San Joaquin river is generally known as the safest for crops year by year, but as the west side becomes better known its advantages are becoming better appreciated. Many men there are who pin their faith to the west side, and many comfortable fortunes have been made there. On that side, however, farms are considerably larger, on an average, and a large area is farmed by owners residing elsewhere. Dry seasons have been expected occasionally there, with resulting loss of a

large portion of the area sown to grain for the year, but these abnormally dry seasons are becoming more and more infrequent with the settling up and cultivation of the country, and change of climate, while irrigation is rapidly solving that problem over the whole county.

FRUIT GROWING.

The development of the fruit and wine interests in Stanislaus has not yet attained for them the importance that they have reached in other counties, yet the showing in these important lines is by no means to be despised.

A. Collins, of Knight's Ferry, who bought his place from William E. Stewart, in 1883, has amply demonstrated what can be accomplished by a man of energy and pluck in the way of bringing the fruit business to a success. His oranges, and he raises large quantities of them, are not excelled in the State of California, and indeed the flavor is probably the finest. He prepares them all for market in the shape of marmalades, etc., and has built up a reputation for these and other fruit products that has compelled the opening of a depot at Stockton.

Kasper Vogt, of Knight's Ferry, has also made name, fame and money for himself from oranges, and like Mr. Collins is regarded as an authority on citrus fruits. The latter gentleman has also succeeded in handling lemons raised on his place in such a manner that he places them on the market in condition equal to the best imported fruit.

J. H. Prowse, of the same district, has also made fruit-raising a success, as well as others of that neighborhood.

About Oakdale, the Stuarts, father and two sons, are doing much in the way of fruit development, and have undoubtedly given an impetus to that industry which will yield great results.

Paul Arata, now lessee of a portion of the Richardson place, is making it blossom as the rose with a variety of fruits and vines, as well as vegetables. He it was who improved the Brickett's place, making it a veritable garden, and a profitable one at that.

In the district that may be said to be naturally tributary to Modesto, Ora McHenry is becoming a leader in the fruit industry, having now about 100 acres so devoted.

L. M. Hickman has 320 acres in fruit, now in the third year of its growth.

J. B. Caldwell, close by Modesto, commenced to plant fruit trees in 1889, and now has about sixteen acres, principally olives, oranges, peaches and figs.

There are many who are doing something in the way of fruit planting and some that have been gradually growing into it. The most interesting place to visit is perhaps the Paradise Gardens, about three miles from Modesto, on the Tuolumne river, where fine bearing trees, in full maturity, may be seen by the hundreds. For four years the place has been under lease from the owner, Mrs. C. Rogers, by Peter Lesher, an experienced fruit man, who has given the Paradise Gardens much care. He raised in 1891 over 700 tons of green fruit, of the finest quality, principally Moorpark apricots, though there were

200 tons of peaches, and 8,000 boxes of Bartlett pears as items. There are also twenty acres of grapes on the place, in variety, and white wines and clarets are manufactured.

VITICULTURE.

In the department of viticulture there has been extended development in places, though it is by no means general throughout the county. However, the possibilities of certain localities are known to be great, as may be illustrated by the great success achieved by one establishment, and which is not excelled in California or the United States. The particular place referred to is

THE RED MOUNTAIN VINEYARD.

During the past twenty years the wines and brandies made at this vinoyard were offered for sale in the cities of Albany and New York. The sales doubled every year, the demand for them spread all over the country, and they gained the reputation as the best made in this country.

A. Schell, the proprietor, was formerly a resident of Albany. In 1849, during the excitement incident to the discovery of gold in California, he went with a company of seventeen to the Eldorado of the West, where, in 1866, he became interested in Red Mountain vinoyard, in company with George H. Krause, a German from the Rhine, well acquainted with the making of wine, and they soon obtained a wide reputation for their wines and brandies. Krause has since died, and Schell has become sole proprietor.

This vineyard is located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains, near Knight's Ferry, in the county of Stanislaus. It contains many different varieties of vines, such as the Muscat of Alexandria, Black Hamburg, Reine de Nice, White Malaga, Frontignan, Golden Chasselas, Zinfandel, Tenturier, Caberuet Sauvignon,—said to be the best Claret grape in the world, Petit Bouschet, Petit Sirrah, Tannot, Trousseau, Matero and Mission grape. The country in and around this vinoyard is volcanic in its origin, being composed of scoria, lava, decomposed iron rock and alluvium intermixed with clay.

It is needless to say to those who are acquainted with the grapes grown in regions of volcanic origin, that they greatly excel in bouquet and richness of saccharine matter—the two great essentials necessary to make good wine.

It has been fully demonstrated by the experience of the past that grapes grown in foothills and mountainous regions of California, as well as those in the mountainous regions of other countries, are greatly superior to those grown on the plains, lowlands and along the sea coast.

This statement is borne out by a report of the committee of the Legislature (1870) of the State of California, on the culture of the grape and production of wine and brandies. The committee say, in their report:

"After a careful investigation, your committee feel constrained to say that, thus far, the grapes grown on our chapparal lands in the foothills and mountain sides produce superior wines and brandies. Indeed, it seems impossible that wines of the same age could excel those of Schell & Krause from the Red

Mountain Vineyard, in the foothills of Stanislaus county."

In an article of particular reference to this celebrated place, the Stockton *Independent* says, in part:

"* * * The soil of this vineyard is a deposit from Littlejohn creek, which runs at the base of Table Mountain. * * * The wine-house and cellar are constructed on the side of a hill. The main cellar is 60 x 80 feet, 16 feet high, with concrete walls three feet thick. In addition to the large cellar just mentioned, a tunnel of 14 feet wide and 7 feet high, has been run from it back into the hill a distance of eighty feet, and then at right angles eighty-one feet farther to the brow of the hill. This tunnel is run through solid rock and cement, which is perfectly impervious to water, is always dry and of even temperature, and is most admirably adapted for the storing of wine. At the outlet of this tunnel on the brow of the hill is an iron grated door, firmly set in solid masonry, and inside of that, wooden doors, which are used to regulate the temperature and ventilation of of the cellar. There are ten 1,000-gallon casks in the main cellar, resting on brick piers, which cost $170 each, and six large tanks holding 1,400 gallons each (since which one tank holding 8,000, one holding 10,000, one holding 11,500, and four holding 5,000 gallons each, have been erected). In the fermenting room there are thirty fermenting tubs, holding 600 gallons each.

"While visiting this cellar a few days since, we counted fifty-eight butts in the tunnel, holding about 150 gallons each, all filled with wine of superior quality, and marked and ready for shipment to New York. There were also in the main cellar, in addition to the large casks and tanks mentioned, many two, three and five hundred gallon casks filled with wine."

IRRIGATION.

One of the greatest factors in the progress of California is irrigation, and wherever it has been systematically introduced prosperity has followed.

In no county in the State has this important subject received more attention than in Stanislaus, and indeed, the work which is now progressing under the powers granted by the Wright act are on such an extensive scale as to attract the attention of progressive people throughout the world.

Some of the early canals in the county were built for supplying water to miners, some for both mining and irrigating purposes, but the later efforts have been all for irrigation.

Among the early water ditches of consequence was the

KNIGHT'S FERRY AND TABLE MOUNTAIN DITCH, which was utilized for the most part in mining operations, though incidentally for other uses. Considerable money was required for its construction, and it suffered a severe loss in the flood of 1861–'62.

THE SAN JOAQUIN DITCH was begun in 1855, for the purpose of bringing water to the rich surface diggings in and about Knight's Ferry. In 1856 Mr. A. Schell came to the financial assistance of the constructing company, and was elected treasurer. The invest-

ment was by no means a profitable one to him, as he came out of it $25,000 loser.

Water was taken from Six Mile Bar, about six miles above Knight's Ferry, and emptying about three or four miles below the town, the total length being about fourteen or fifteen miles. It was originally four feet wide on the bottom, but when the last flume was put in this width was reduced to three feet in width and eighteen inches in depth. The cost was about $80,000. The company in control was organized as the San Joaquin Ditch Company. In 1866 Thomas Roberts bought eight-twentieths of the property, and became superintendent of the ditch, which position he held until 1884. It was for many years used for both mining and irrigating purposes, but since the decadence of the mining industry in that region it has been used only for irrigation. The property passed by sale from the former owners to the possession of the San Joaquin Land and Water Company.

The San Joaquin and King's River Canal was the first of the great canals to be constructed in California. It starts near the head of Fresno slough, in Fresno county, and runs to Orestimba creek, in Stanislaus county, a total distance, by its course, of nearly seventy-five miles. The first thirty-eight and a half miles were built in 1871, and the canal was finished to its present terminus in 1877–'78. The total cost of the canal was about $1,500,000. Only about twelve miles of the main ditch is in Stanislaus county, and the soil along its course is for the most part a light brown argillaceous loam, with an occasional admixture of sand, very deep, compact, fertile and highly retentive of moisture.

The Oakdale Irrigation Company was incorporated in 1889, with a capital stock of $100,000, and its first officers were as follows: C. S. S. Hill, President; George Martin, Secretary; Bank of Oakdale, Treasurer. Operations were commenced, however, in April, 1888; with the inauguration of the survey. Water is taken from the Stanislaus river about a mile and a half below Knight's Ferry, and the ditch is now finished to Oakdale, a distance of ten miles, about three-quarters of a mile of tunneling being found necessary in that distance. It was originally intended to have the canal thirty feet wide, but it has been cut down to ten feet, while the depth given is five feet. The canal and dam will be finished, and water running into Oakdale, in 1893, and the ditch will then be capable of irrigating 20,000 acres of land lying below it. The cost of the completed plant will be about $120,000. The constructing engineer has been J. A. Graham, who has given it his personal supervision. The company is now officered as follows: A. S. Emery, President; E. L. Barkis, Secretary; Bank of Oakdale, Treasurer: Directors, elected April 16, 1892: R. H. Bentley, J. Haslacher, L. Kahn, A. S. Emery, R. R. Snedigar, E. R. Crawford, and S. W. Coffee.

Modesto Irrigation District Canal.—The Modesto Irrigation District was formed in 1887, under the provisions of the Wright act, and since that time a vast amount of work has been accomplished. Fifty freeholders of the projected district petitioned

the Board of Supervisors for the formation of the district for irrigation purposes under the Wright act, and by successive steps the project proceeded until July 9, 1887, when the election was held by which the question was decided favorably and the following directors elected—one for each of the five districts: J. W. Davison, E. H. Gatlin, Robert McHenry, A. G. Carver, and W. H. Finley. T. O. Owens was chosen Collector; Isaac Perkins, Treasurer, and V. E. Bangs, Assessor.

The Board of Directors organized July 23, 1887, by choosing Robert McHenry, President; J. W. Davison, Secretary *pro tem.* The latter filled that office until June 5, 1888, when W. W. Granger was elected Secretary; he held until November 29, 1890, after which F. A. Cressey served as secretary until March 3, 1890, since which time C. S. Abbott has held the office of secretary.

The canal is divided into five sections, estimated to cost an average of $80,000 per section.

Section 1, comprising the headworks and headgates, is excavated in the solid rock next to the dam, and only about 150 feet in length.

Section 2, consisting of flumes and cuts, is 9,000 feet long, and has been completed.

Section 3, which is about completed, has a total length of 26,760 feet, and has one tunnel which is 1,190 feet long, excavated in sandstone, with a fall of one foot in 500. This tunnel is built in keystone form, with arched roof, being eleven feet wide on bottom, the curved top being fourteen feet six inches in width, while the height, from the middle of the floor of the tunnel to the center of the arched roof, is twelve feet.

From the tunnel the canal gradually widens out until it reaches a general width on the bottom of forty-four feet. There are, however, three variations in the form of the canal, to conform to the various conditions met with, the bottom width in all cases remaining at forty-four feet.

When excavating through a cut, a slope of one to one is followed until a point is reached which is eight feet above the bottom line, and then a space of eight feet is leveled off back to waste.

When filling is required to shape the canal, the inside slope of the embankment is two to one, the bank is made eight feet thick on top, and the outside slope is one half to one.

Where there is both cut and fill, the slope of the cut is made one to one, then a bench is preserved, and from this the slope to the top of grade is one-half to one; the bank is eight feet wide on top, and the outside slope one-half to one, the top of embankment being eight feet above the level of the bottom of the ditch. While this height of bank is uniformly eight feet, the canal is intended to carry five feet of water.

These dimensions are preserved in sections four and five of the canal.

Section 4, which is 32,350 feet in length, is nearing completion.

Section 5, the length of which is given at 51,050 feet, is yet in an incipient stage.

Sections 2 and 3 contain all the work

presenting engineering difficulties, excavations in rock, tunneling, flumes, etc., while sections four and five are plain earthwork.

The first work on this great enterprise was done in July, 1891, on section two, near La Grange.

On May 1, 1890, a new board of directors took hold of the work, consisting of A. G. Carver, G. D. Wootten, W. H. Finley, R. J. McKinnon, and F. A. Cressey. Mr. Carver was chosen president of the board, but he was carried away by death, and Willis Bledsoe was elected to fill the vacancy on the board, while F. A. Cressey, who is conceded to have given a vast amount of personal attention to the work, was chosen president, November 3, 1891. There have been no further changes in its composition.

The Modesto district contains about 80,000 acres of land, and the assessment roll for 1891 was $3,404,707 on the property in the district. In 1890 it was $3,361,347.

The dam is the joint property of the Modesto and Turlock districts, and constructed by them in unison, the committeeman for Modesto district being F. A. Cressey, and for Turlock, R. M. Williams.

Before referring in detail to this great joint dam at La Grange, it will be well to treat of the other partner in that vast undertaking, viz.:

The Turlock Irrigation District.—This district was organized on the 6th of June, 1887, its directors being as follows: E. B. Clark, president; R. M. Williams, secretary; E. V. Coggswell, W. L. Fulkerth, and J. T. Dunn. J. V. Davis was elected assessor; A. N. Crow, collector, and C. N. Whitmore, treasurer.

The total number of acres included in this district are 176,210, being more than twice the acreage of the Modesto district.

The length of the main canal when completed is given as thirty miles, of which about sixteen miles is for the most part finished.

Of that portion mentioned as nearly completed, there is about one-half mile next to the dam on which nothing has been done at this writing (May, 1892), but the remainder is practically done except about 2,000 feet of flume, and a small wooden dam to raise the water in Dry creek about ten feet.

For convenience in the letting of contracts, the work on the first five miles was designated as section 1, with five sub-sections.

Sub-section 1 is side-hill slate work, 2,700 feet long, twenty feet wide on bottom, with outer wall, rip-rap on inside and puddle between.

Sub-section 2 is a cut 800 feet long and forty feet deep, twenty feet wide on bottom, the material being gravel, and the side slopes one to one.

Sub-section 3 is a cut twenty feet in the deepest part; material mainly gravel, with some hard stone, and the length about 800 feet.

Sub-section 4 consists of 6,000 feet of earth work, the canal on this portion being thirty feet wide and ten feet deep.

Sub-section 5 comprises three tunnels, in length, 250, 350 and 450 feet respectively; eighteen feet wide and fourteen feet high in the center, cut of sandstone.

The remainder of section 1 is the channel of Dry creek, also an old basin washed out by hydraulic mining, and 1,700 feet of flume. The fluming is mostly over creek and gulch crossings.

Section 2 has a length of eleven miles.

Sub-section 1 is a cut one-half mile long, deepest part seventy feet, washed out by hydraulic mining, the width of canal on bottom being twenty feet, the side slopes one to one, and the soil gravel and hard-pan. The balance of this section is of earth, with occasional hard-pan and sandstone, the width of the canal through the ordinary earth soil being seventy feet on the bottom, but varying according to material passed through; banks eight feet high, with slopes from one to one to one and one-half to one, and banks six feet wide on top.

The work has been thoroughly done under the supervision of E. H. Barton, engineer.

The capacity of the canal is 1,500 cubic feet of water per second.

The present officers, elected in April, 1890, are: E. V. Coggswell, president; R. M. Williams, secretary; E. V. Coggswell, R. M. Williams, M. McPherson, J. W. Mitchell and H. A. Dunn, directors; N. H. Muncey, assessor; John Osborn, collector, and C. H. Whitmore, treasurer.

JOINT DAM AT LA GRANGE—MODESTO AND TURLOOK IRRIGATION DISTRICTS.

This great dam is the common property of the two districts who constructed it, and the first work upon it was done in August, 1891. The height of the dam at its face is 129.5 feet, and from the crest the back of the dam proceeds back in a double curve for a considerable distance.

Across the river the crest line of the dam is 310 feet, and it is built on the curve principle, concave face showing down the stream, and with a radical line of 300 feet.

The construction was let under contract, the contractor bidding to put the masonry in place for $10.39 per cubic yard, the districts to furnish the Portland cement delivered at the site. As a result, to this writing (May, 1892), it is found that one barrel of cement is used to 120 yards of masonry.

There are, in all, about 34,000 cubic yards of masonry in the dam, and the cost is estimated at about $500,000.

When completed, it is expected to be one of the strongest and most reliable dams in the world.

MODESTO.

LOCATION AND BEGINNING.

Modesto, the county seat and principal town of Stanislaus county, occupies a portion not far from the geographical center of the county, and in the midst of a highly prosperous agricultural community. The location is on high and dry ground about three-quarters of a mile from the Tuolumne river, which is here spanned by substantial railroad and wagon bridges, and nearer still is Dry creek.

The town occupies a section of land purchased for a town site in 1870 by the Contract & Finance Company, a corporation closely allied to the Southern Pacific railroad.

When it became certain in the summer and fall of 1870, that the railroad was going to locate a town at this particular point, there was a general exodous of people from Paradise and Tuolumne City. All who could get away moved with their baggage to the new town, and many of them even with their buildings, as well, so there are to this day a number of buildings doing duty in various capacities in Modesto that formerly did service in the two old towns mentioned.

The first hotel was the Modesto House, which changed its name with the change of location, the building having formerly been the Tuolumne City Hotel at Tuolumne City. It was kept in both places by D. S. Husband and wife, and Mrs. Husband relates how she cooked the first public meal in Modesto while the hotel was yet on wheels. She places the date of this event as the 19th of November, 1870, from which a very good idea may be obtained of the precise time when Modesto began to assume city airs.

The Ross House was moved over from Paradise two or three days later: so Modesto had two hotels in full blast.

The first building in the town, however, was a saloon, a new building, constructed on the site it occupied, and the next was a schoolhouse moved over from Tuolumne City, just before the hotel came over.

The first merchant was William Houston, who kept a general store where the Lane block now stands, though he was alone in the field but a very brief time.

In November, 1870, the first marriage occurred,—a double one,—Barney Garner and Alice Pritchett constituting one couple, and William Ross and Emily Pritchett the other.

During the last week in November, 1870, the office and material of the *Weekly News* was removed to Modesto from Tuolumne City, and then the new town had an organ which was always ready to keep its name before the public.

With steady tread Modesto kept advancing until, by virtue of the election held in September, 1871, she became the county seat, receiving twice the combined votes of all the other contestants.

The actual removal took place early in 1872, and the county officers and nearly all the lawyers removed to Modesto, which also received quite a momentum otherwise from her successful contest for honors as the seat of justice.

The early quarters used by the officers in the transaction of county business are mentioned at some length in connection with the articles on county-seat removal, in another chapter.

PRESENT ASPECT OF THE CITY.

The present courthouse, a handsome and substantial structure erected and furnished at a cost of some $60,000, occupies, with its grounds, a block 300 x 400 feet in dimensions, the regulation size of blocks in Modesto. The grounds are very inviting, being thickly set with trees and shrubbery, and the courthouse and grounds are a credit to the county and to the town.

Modesto is a contestant for the honor of being the most important town between Stockton and Los Angeles, excepting Fresno of course; and one thing is certain, she is second to no other. Her public buildings, stores and residences are for the most part handsome as well as substantial structures, and a number might be mentioned in both classes which would do credit to much larger cities.

The new county hospital, finished in 1892, is one of the finest and best arranged in the State, and Stanislaus county is entitled to and will receive great credit in thus providing for her unfortunate ones.

There are two large two-story school buildings, one in the eastern portion of the city and one on the west side of the railroad track, one of frame construction and the other brick, but both well built and fully equipped, affording between them facilities for instruction in primary, grammar and high school courses. The people of Modesto take great pride and interest in their schools, and they are supplied with a competent corps of instructors, amply capable of caring for the educational interests of the growing generation.

For the protection of the city from fire there are two volunteer companies, a hose company and hook and ladder company, both of which are fully equipped for effective work. There are no engines, but none are necessary, as in case of fire pressure from the

pumps is turned on directly, giving a force sufficient to throw a stream over any building likely to be constructed in the city.

The streets are numbered one way and lettered in the other direction, as in Sacramento, a very convenient method, and are uniformly eighty feet in width except in the case of I street, which is 100 feet wide. Driving is at all seasons easy in all parts of town, the character of the soil and the location of the town on dry ground making the care of streets an easy matter.

INCORPORATION AS A CITY.

Modesto was incorporated as a city of the sixth class under the general laws of the State of California, on the 4th of August, 1884, and her first officers were as follows: Trustees—Theodore Turner, president, James Johnson, J. B. Brichman, C. L. Payne and John F. Tucker; clerk, W. B. Granger; treasurer, C. E. Marriott; marshal, A. K. Pritchett. The officers elected in 1892 are: Trustees—F. H. Zander, president, N. E. De Yoe, J. C. Sample, W. F. Hudelson and John Reedy; G. H. Golden, clerk; J. R. Broughton, treasurer; C. C. Wright, city attorney; R. D. Young, marshal; W. J. Willhite, M. D., health officer. The trustees' office is in the H. Crist building, on Tenth street, near I.

CHURCHES.

Modesto is well supplied with churches, and a strong interest is shown among the various societies. The following denominations have flourishing organizations here: The Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal, South, Episcopal, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Congregational and Christian.

CEMETERIES.

There are four cemeteries, viz.: the general, Masonic, Odd Fellows and Catholic.

BANKS.

The Modesto Bank is the oldest established bank in Modesto, having been incorporated October 28, 1878. Its first officers were: A. L. Cressey, president; L. B. Walthall, secretary, treasurer and cashier; and S. P. Rogers, assistant cashier. Directors—A. L. Cressey, L. B. Walthall, Caleb Dorsey, Robert McHenry, Isaac Perkins, William Enslen and S. P. Rogers. The bank has an authorized capital stock of $250,000, paid up capital of $175,000, and surplus of about $200,000. The present officers are: A. L. Cressey, president; F. A. Cressey, secretary and assistant cashier; J. R. Broughton, Cashier. Directors—A. L. Cressey, F. A. Cressey, J. R. Broughton, Isaac Perkins, C. A. Stonesifer, O. McHenry and H. P. Weyer. The bank is a solid, prosperous concern, and occupies a high place among outside financial institutions.

The First National Bank of Modesto was organized in March, 1884, with a capital stock of $50,000, and commenced business with the following officers: H. H. Hewlett, president; W. B. Wood, vice-president; and S. P. Rogers, cashier. The volume of its business expanded with the growth of the town and surrounding country, and in 1887 the capital stock was increased to $100,000. The officers are now: O. McHenry, president; W. B. Wood, vice-president; J. E.

Ward, cashier; Directors—W. B. Wood, A. Hewell, J. P. Islip, Garrison Turner and O. McHenry.

The Union Savings Bank, a rolated institution, was organized by the stockholders of the First National Bank as an adjunct to it, in 1890, and its officers are the same.

The aggregate deposits of the two institutions, December 31, 1891, amounted to $575,000. During the last three years deposits have increased at the rate of $100,000 per year, which attests the public confidence in the management of these institutions.

GAS, ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER WORKS.

The Modesto Electric Light Company's plant was put in during the year 1891, and the town was first lighted with electricity on the night of April 1, 1891. F. W. Eaton of San Francisco is the capitalist to whose enterprise this improvement is due, and A. F. Brown is the local manager. The plant has a capacity of 500 incandescent lights and there are now in place about 450, which shows the popularity of the electric light here.

The Modesto gas works were erected near the corner of Tenth and G streets in 1876, by L. C. Branch, and the town was first illuminated with gas on the evening of July 3, of that year. Mr. Branch, though not now a resident here, still retains his strong interest in the gas company, and in this, as in other matters, the effects of his entorprise is still felt.

The Modesto Water Company supplies the city of Modesto with water for fire and domestic purposes. The original works were the result of the efforts of Messrs. L. C. Branch and C. F. Leavonworth. The Modesto Water Company, which now controls the water supply of the city, is officered as follows: Charles Maze, Jr., director and president; L. J. Maddux, director and secretary; F. A. Cressey, director and treasurer; J. R. Broughton and Mrs. Charles Maze, Jr., directors.

Water is obtained from wells, the works which are in the heart of the city boing equipped with a battery of two boilers of forty and thirty-five horse power, respectively. Their are four storage tanks, having a capacity of nearly 200,000 gallons. Mains extend throughout the entire city and supply an abundance of pure water.

LODGES.

Stanislaus lodge No. 206, F. & A. M., was constituted at Tuolumne City December 31, 1869, with the following original members: S. A. Cleveland, H. G. James, J. W. Laird, G. W. Toombs, George Buck, Robert M. Phillips, R. C. May and George H. French. They worked under dispensation for several months, receiving their charter May 10, 1870. The first officers were: S. A. Cleveland, Master; George Buck, S. W.; H. G. James, J. W.; J. W. Laird, Treasurer; Robert M. Phillips, Secretary. The lodge moved from Tuolumne City to Modesto March 20, 1871, and held their meetings in H. G. James' building, corner of H and Elevonth streets, until December, 1875, when they moved to Odd Fellows Hall, where they met until completion of their own hall in Grollman's building on Tenth street. The present

officers of the lodge are: L. W. Fulkerth, W. M.; J. E. Ward, S. W.; W. S. Stone, J. W.; G. D. Plato, Treasurer; G. R. Stoddard, Secretary; George S. Goeffert, S. D.; T. E. B. Rice, J. D.; G. W. Cameron, Tyler. The lodge is in good condition, and has a large and influential membership.

Modesto Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M., was organized March 17, 1875, with charter members as follows: Wm. John Houston, Septimus Allen Cleveland, Henry G. James, Isaac Ripperdan, Thomas A. Wilson, Alexander Burkett, John D. Tetter, Geo. W. Dowda, and Samuel V. Wardrobe. The first petition was received the same evening from Judge C. L. Howell, and five others followed, viz.: L. B. Walthall, Henry Jacobs, George W. Toombs, John Rogers and John Visher. The first officers were: W. J. Houston, High Priest; S. A. Cleveland, King; and H. G. James, Scribe. The officers installed January 14, 1892, and serving at this writing are: A. R. Jamison, High Priest; Frank Cressey, King; and G. Kilburn, Scribe.

Wildey Lodge, No. 149, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Tuolumne City, November 10, 1868, with six charter members, viz.: J. T. Martin, Miner Walden, Henry Wilson, William Olrick, H. K. Covert and J. A. Brown. District Deputy Grand Master George Buck officiated at the institution, and the following officers were installed: Miner Walden, N. G.; H. K. Covert, V. G.; J. A. Brown, R. S.; William Olrick, T. In 1871 the lodge was moved to Modesto, and the first meeting was held here November 18, 1871. The officers now are: Wm. O. Minor, N. G.; P. O. Dossey, V. G.; M. I. Sorenson, Secretary; and J. R. Broughton, Treasurer.

Modesto Encampment, No. 48, I. O. O. F., was organized October 22, 1874, with the following charter members: R. W. Hathaway, John Gilliland, T. W. Drullard, P. H. Medley, Henry Lewis, G. B. Douglas and J. H. Hayes. The first officers were: R. W. Hathaway, C. P.; John Gilliland, H. P.; T. W. Drullard, J. W.; P. H. Medley, S. W.; Henry Lewis, Scribe; G. B. Douglas, Sentinel, and J. H. Hayes, Treasurer. At present the lodge is officered as follows: Frank L. Shirran, C. P.; John Kane, H. P.; W. K. McMullin, S. W.; M. I. Sorenson, Scribe; Herman Christ, Treasurer; P. H. Medley, J. W. The encampment at the last report had a membership of sixty-four, and its condition is one of prosperity.

Modesto Grove, No. 34, U. A. O. D., was institnted May 13, 1880, by District Deputy Henry Lewis, with officers as follows: M. Sorenson, N. A.; I. S. Loventhal, V. A.; C. A. Peterson, Treasurer; L. F. Mallory, Secretary; Henry Lewis, Con.; L. Byrum, I. G.; F. Anaya, O. G.; Benjamin Dreher, R. H. B. to N. A.; F. N. Ross, L. H. B. to N. A. The present officers are: John M. Graves, N. A.; C. T. Jackson, V. A.; M. I. Sorenson, Secretary, and Herman Christ, Treasurer.

Modesto Lodge, No. 81, K. of P., was organized January 26, 1883, and elected officers as follows: T. W. Drullard, P. C.; James Johnson, C. C.; E. Dettelbach, V. C.; M. I. Sorenson, K. of R. & S.; P. J. Hazen, M. of

F.; B. Grunbaum, M. of E. This lodge meets at Druids' Hall. The officers are now: P. H. Medley, C. C.; G. R. Stoddard, V. C.; M. I. Sorenson, K. of R. & S.; P. J. Hazen, M. of E.

Cedar Lodge, No. 1,992, K. of H., Modesto, was instituted January 22, 1880, by William J. Gregg, Deputy Supreme Dictator, with twenty charter members, as follows: J. S. Alexander, C. L. Anthony, H. Christ, J. E. Edwards, E. P. Grant, P. Grenfell, S. Garlinghouse, John Hardesty, C. S. Harter, A. Jofts, J. Johnson, T. M. Lane, J. M. Lane, Henry Lewis, C. Maxwell, J. McCoy, J. W. McCarthy, C. A. Post, W. J. Wilhite and Thomas Wallace. The present officers are: A. S. Fulkerth, Dictator; William A. Harter, Recording Reporter; I. S. Loventhal, Financial Reporter.

Empire Lodge, No. 112, A. O. U. W., was organized in Modesto, June 23, 1879, by D. D. G. M. W. Eugene Lehe, of Stockton, with sixteen charter members. The first officers were: Henry Lewis, P. M. W.; Charles Maxwell, M. W.; Moses Adams, G. F.; J. W. McCarthy, O.; Clinton T. Swain, Recorder; E. F. Branch, Financier; Moses S. Truman, Receiver; John Hardesty, G.; John Robinson, I. W.; William T. McGinnis, O. W.

Grant Post, No. 9, G. A. R., of Modesto, was organized July 9, 1879, with Dr. T. W. Drullard as Post Commander and I. S. Loventhal as Adjutant. The charter members were: John R. Kelso, T. W. Drullard, Theodore Hovey, R. B. Treat, C. W. Johnson, I. S. Loventhal, James A. Walker, Leandor Cunningham, E. E. Dozier, C. B. Fitzgerald and J. R. Briggs. The report of December 31, 1891, showed a membership of thirty-four. S. V. Porter is Commander and I. S. Loventhal, Adjutant.

Grant Relief Corps, No. 39, W. R. C., was organized May 11, 1887. The first principal officers were: Mrs. Harriet Husband, President; Miss Clara Ross, Secretary. At present they are: Mrs. Carrie Rich, President; Mrs. Nettie I. Loventhal, Secretary.

NEWSPAPERS.

There are two separate newspaper establishments in Modesto,—that of the Weekly *Herald*, and the Daily and Weekly *News*.

The first appearance of the Weekly *News* was at Tuolumne City about the last of February, 1868. J. D. Spencer was its editor and proprietor. The paper was started during the excitement and settlement of the central and western portions of the county on account of their prolific yield of wheat. There were then no railroads in the county. The young town of Tuolumne City, situated as it was near the junction of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers, was then thriving and prosperous. Prior to the starting of the Weekly *News* there had been two or three unsuccessful efforts to establish a county paper at the then county seat at Knight's Ferry. The *News* for a while prospered, but found its local support declining with the town where it was published. The advent of the railroad in the county made the removal of the *News* to Modesto a necessity. Consequently, the last week of November, 1870, the office, building and material were moved to that place, where it soon took front rank as one

of the leading county papers of the State. In the spring of 1882 it was found necessary to bring steam into requisition as a power to propel its presses.

On the first of December, 1884, the Daily Evening *News* was issued in conjunction with the Weekly *News*. This was found necessary from the fact that two or three experimenters had started daily papers, and the pride of the publisher of the *News* and its many old-time friends would not admit of being outstripped. The new rivals, however, have all since suspended, and the Evening *News* is still read by almost the entire population of the town and surrounding country.

In July, 1886, W. D. Crow, an experienced publisher and printer, was associated with Mr. Spencer as a partner in the publication of the *News*. This was found necessary from the fact that the senior member of the firm had accepted the office of clerk of the supreme court. The combined partnership brought capital and experience into the enterprise. Since then the machinery, material and office have been greatly improved. In March, 1892, Mr. Crow retired, leaving the pioneer paper again in sole control of its founder. To-day the paper is strong, vigorous, and filling every requirement of a local paper. It completely fills the field in which it is published, and will, no doubt, advance with the town and county.

J. D. Spencer, the veteran newspaper man of Stanislaus county, was born in 1839, at Parkersburg, West Virginia, son of Wade H. and Harriet (Wilson) Spencer, the father a farmer. In 1849 the family removed westward, going to Jackson county, Wisconsin, and afterward locating near where Kansas City now stands.

The subject of this sketch, though but a lad of ten years, accompanied the tide of emigration to California in 1849, and in Calaveras county he made his mark as a miner, though but a mere boy, by discovering Spencer's bar. In 1852, after three years in the mining districts, he went back East. His stay there, however, was a short one, as he returned to California in 1853, making the trip this time by water. He followed the fortunes of mining until 1860, meantime proceeding with his education until he was a graduate of the higher grammar schools of the State.

His career in the newspaper business was begun in the office of the San Andreas *Independent*, with which he was connected for one year. After this he followed photography for a while.

In 1864 he started the Woodbridge *Messenger*, the first newspaper in San Joaquin county outside of Stockton. His sterling traits of character were recognized by his receiving the nomination of his party in 1867 for Assemblyman from San Joaquin county, and by his leading his ticket by over 300 votes. However, he failed to be elected, as his party was in a hopeless minority.

In the latter part of 1867 and first of 1868 he published the *Mountain News*, at San Andreas.

In February, 1868, his career in Stanislaus county, commences, as he then started the *Weekly News*, at Tuolumne city.

While there he was married, in July, 1869, to Miss Martha M. Weir, daughter of Major V. C. Weir.

He brought the *News* to Modesto in 1870, as related above in the history of the paper.

In 1880, Mr. Spencer was elected to the General Assembly of California, and his record was that in 1882 he was chosen to represent this district in the State Senate, and re-elected in 1884. He resigned, however, to accept the clerkship of the Supreme Court, to fill out the unexpired term of J. W. McCarthy.

In 1886 he received the nomination for clerk of the Supreme Court, and was duly elected, serving four years. He was again the candidate in 1890, and though defeated he led his ticket.

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer have one son living, aged two years at this writing; two have died.

Mr. Spencer has been for twelve years an active member of the Democratic county central committee, and his leadership in more than one hard-fought campaign has been of great benefit to his party.

He is a gentleman of the old school, estoeming honor above all other possessions. The record of Mr. Spencer in being continuously connected with one paper for a quarter of a century is an unusual one, and it is believed that the honor is shared in by but one other on the Pacific coast.

MODESTO HERALD.

On January 28, 1875, this paper made its first appearance, H. E. Luther being in control. He published the paper until the fall of that year, and then, his health failing, the management passed to Charles Maxwell, who in December, 1875, changed the size and form from a six-column folio to a six-column quarto. In August, 1880, the office was removed to new quarters in the second story of the building at the southeast corner of H and Tenth streets, where it is yet located. Here the paper was again enlarged to a seven-column quarto.

In 1881 the papor passed into the hands of A. E. Wagstaff, who conducted it until January, 1887, when he was succeeded by T. W. Drullard.

The *Herald* and outfit were purchased from him by the present proprietor, Mr. S. L. Hanscomb, who changed the form to that of an eight-column folio on August 14, 1890.

The *Herald* has always been Republican in its political creed, and under the management and editorship of Mr. Hanscomb has attained a high standing among the press of the State. His conduct of the paper has always been characterized by an aggressive spirit and he has not spared criticism of the management of public affairs where he has believed it to be due. A brief outline sketch of his life will be found of interest in this connection.

Si Livingston Hanscomb, editor and proprietor of the Modesto *Herald*, was born in San Joaquin county, California, near the present hamlet of Atlanta, on February 22, 1860, his parents Josiah Weston and Amanda Mary (Tyler) Hanscomb. Both parents were from Maine, and the father was a '49er, who came out via Cape Horn. The mother came to California by the Isthmus route, in 1852.

The father, who was at first a miner and afterward in the cattle and sheep business, finally settled down to farming in San Joaquin county, where the family lived many years, afterward removing to Stanislaus county, where the mother died in the fall of 1886; the father is now retired from active labor.

Our subject was reared in San Joaquin county to the age of fourteen years, and from his arrival at suitable age until that time, attended public school at Atlanta. His next schooling was at Ceres, in the neighborhood of the new family home in Stanislaus county, where he attended two years, being engaged at farm work when not at school.

When he had reached the age of eighteen he began attendance at the State Normal School at San José, where he was at once admitted to the highest class, and was graduated in the class of 1879, after one year at this institution.

After this he taught school, at least a portion of each year, until 1887, and all of this time in Stanislaus county with the exception of one year; but during two years of this time, in addition to his duties in the school room, he was engaged in farming for himself in Stanislaus county. During the summers of all these years he worked in the harvest field, and also ran a header during the season each year.

After his purchase of the *Herald*, in addition to conducting the paper, he also taught one term of six months in Modesto. The paper, however, has kept him pretty well employed, as, besides the duties usually devolving on one in his position, his attention has been taken up with no less than twelve lawsuits, mostly for libel, of which he virtually won eleven, all verdicts being in his favor except one, when $1 damages was assessed against him. The twelfth suit is pending at this writing. As an additional reminder of the fact that he has been conducting a lively paper, Mr. Hanscomb has but to cast his eyes to the ceiling of his composing room to see the lodging place of a bullet intended for his head, but whose course he deflected by throwing up his hand and knocking the pistol upward in the shooter's hand.

He has taken prominent ranks among the leading Republicans of the State on account of his able exposition of the party's doctrines, and in 1890 was the leading candidate before the State convention at Sacramento for the office of State Controller. The nomination was easily within his grasp, but on account of his loyalty to other leading candidates after their chances were gone, he allowed the State to be made up on different lines, so that, though supported to the last by a very strong following of the most loyal adherents the nomination eventually went elsewhere. It is a matter of political history, however, that with even such a slight attention to his own interests at the right time as could not in any sense have been construed as selfishness, he could have carried off the honor of the nomination, and at the election following the office itself, of State Controller of California.

Mr. Hanscomb is personally a pleasant

gentleman, agreeable in his daily intercourse with others, and undoubtedly able in the handling of any subject to which he devotes his attention.

NEWSPAPERS OF THE PAST.

The Modesto *Strawbuck* was started as a weekly paper by H. L. Bradford, but was afterward conducted for a time as a semi-weekly, and also as a tri-weekly. It was finally made a daily, and issued as such under the same management. Mr. Bradford changed it to the Daily *Republican*, and under this name he guided its destiny until 1887, when he discontinued its publication, the competition of the *Herald* and *News* making the field unprofitable for newspaper work, so that some one had to give up, and the *Republican* was the one to succumb. Mr. Bradford, who is ranked as a good newspaper man, is now conducting the Monterey *Cypress*.

A syndicate of citizens put in the plant for the *Farmers' Journal* after the *Republican* had entered the field, and it was put under the control of W. E. Turner, who had a vigorous style of handling subjects which brought much attention to his paper.

It continued publication until 1886, and during all this time except the last few months of its existence, was edited by Mr. Turner. The material was purchased by Mr. Bradford and consolidated with the *Republican* outfit.

The Modesto Daily *Press* was another of the newspapers which failed to survive in the journalistic race in Modesto. It was originated by D. J. Foley, now of the Turlock *Times*, who conducted the *Press* as a Democratic journal. He was succeeded in the proprietorship by I. S. Loventhal, who, after a newspaper career of about three months' duration, closed out the business and suspended the publication of the paper.

In 1873 the Modesto *Mirror* issued its first number, with S. Macy as proprietor. In the spring of 1874, L. F. Beckwith purchased the plant, and conducted it throughout the memorable local option campaign of that year, which proved disastrous to it. The material was afterward sold to H. E. Luther, and formed part of the plant with which he started the *Herald*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Modesto is well equipped with mercantile establishments of all classes, some of her stores being among the best arranged and best equipped in Central California. There are extensive lumber yards, shops of all kinds, a brewery, soda factory, large livery stables, and in fact everything that could reasonably be expected in a city of this size. The country surrounding the place is very productive, and is settled by an intelligent and industrious class of people, who keep well up with the march of improvement

OTHER TOWNS.

OAKDALE.

Oakdale is a prosperous agricultural and trading town in the northern part of Stanislaus county, and is only about a mile distant from the Stanislaus river, which is at this point spanned by a fine and substantial

wagon bridge and the Southern Pacific railroad bridge.

The level of the town is eighty feet above the bed of the river, and it lies in the heart of a splendid grove of live-oak timber, from which fact its name was given it. The strip of timber skirting the Stanislaus river at this point is about three miles in width, and extends up and down the stream about ten miles each way. The lower bottom land along either side of the river produces the largest and finest of corn, and is adapted for the growth of everything that is allowed by the climate.

The town site was laid out in 1871 by Jackson, Patterson and Purcell, and the selection is acknowledged to be a peculiarly happy one for a residence and business town. Its oak groves make it a favored resort and pleasure ground for the people of all the surrounding country on special occasions, and picnics and barbecues are of frequent occurrence here.

The Stockton and Visalia railroad made its southern terminus here for many years, and this point was of great advantage to the town, freight being handled here from all directions for shipment to market, while supplies for these same districts were transferred from rail to wagon at Oakdale. When this division of the Southern Pacific was continued through to Merced in 1891, only the region to the south, through which the extension runs, was cut off, as the teaming to the towns of Knight's Ferry, Sonora, Chinese Camp, Jamestown, Columbia, Bodie and over the mountains is still done from Oakdale, which has lost none of its importance, but is constantly gaining in population and volume of business.

Railroad avenue, 400 feet wide, runs through Oakdale from northwest to southeast, giving the town a broad and pleasant drive.

The outlying country is immense in extent, and is one vast granary except where the raising of cereals has been supplanted by fruit culture, which is becoming a thriving industry in this section. For this reason, as well as on account of its advantageous position, Oakdale may justly be said to have before her a most promising future. The Bank of Oakdale was established in February, 1888, under the authority vested in it by articles of incorporation issued January 18, 1888, with an authorized capital stock of $150,000. The first officers were: J. Haslacher, president; Louis Kahn, cashier; Directors—Jacob Haslacher, Louis Kahn, N. S. Harold, Thos. B. Dorsey, A. Harris, E. Reynolds, Chas. E. Welch, J. D. Bentley and D. Goldstein. The affairs of this bank have been so ably administered that it has ranked, almost from the start, as one of the strongest concerns of the State. At the beginning about thirty per cent. of the capital was paid up, while now there is a surplus of $20,000. The present officers of the bank are: Jacob Haslacher, president; Louis Kahn, cashier; directors—Jacob Haslacher, Louis Kahn, N. S. Harold, Chas. E. Welch, E. Reynolds, C. H. Threlfall, J. D. Bentley, R. H. Bentley and Thos. B. Dorsey. The handsome building occupied by the bank was erected especially for its use by the owners, Messrs.

Haslacher and Kahn, the originators of the bank. This solid institution does a heavy business, not only in Oakdale and vicinity, but also in the adjacent counties.

Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation June 24, 1884, with the following members: Silas Bishop, James Godfrey Booth, Thomas Richardson, Caleb Dorsey, Jacob Haslacher, George W. Lancaster, George Francis Stearns, Alexander Campbell, Levi Bardo, Samson Deeble, D. B. Warfield, A. Beith, John Hubbel and John William Tulloch. The first officers were: Joseph Warner, W. M.; D. B. Warfield, S. W.; G. F. Stearns, Treas.; John D. Crittenden, J. W.; Jacob Haslacher, Sec.; J. W. Tulloch, S. D.; Levi Bardo, J. D.; Thomas Richardson and J. G. Booth, Stewards; and A. J. Swift, Tyler. The present officers are: Jacob Haslacher, W. M.; M. V. Mann, S. W.; D. Rickard, J. W.; L. Kahn, Treas.; E. L. Barkis, Sec.; D. B. Warfield, Marshal; R. R. Warder, S. D.; A. Beith, J. D.; Thomas Richardson and E. Reynolds, Stewards; and E. F. Crabtree, Tyler. The report to Grand Lodge, January, 1892, showed a membership of thirty-seven, which has since been materially increased, and the lodge is in a highly prosperous condition.

Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F., was organized February 27, 1875, and had, as charter members, the following: A. Gardner, E. S. Waterhouse, William H. Cole, William G. Worth, C. B. Ingalls, E. Monroe and S. P. Bailey. The first officers were: A. Gardner, N. G.; S. P. Bailey, V. G.; E. S. Waterhouse, Sec.; C. B. Ingalls, Treas. The membership, according to report of January, 1892, was fifty-six, and the condition highly prosperous. This fact is, however, most particularly evidenced by the splendid building erected by the lodge, and in another item referred to. The present officers are: C. D. Burnett, N. G.; C. H. Osler, V. G.; C. A. Cotter, Sec.; Louis Kahn, Treas.

Ridgely Encampment, No. 68, Oakdale, was organized March 22, 1882. The charter members and first officers were: R. W. Hathaway, C. P.; Andrew Gardner, H. P.; W. G. Worth, S. W.; J. W. Woodside, Scribe; N. Clark, Treas.; E. C. Crawford, J. W. The present officers are: C. D. Burnett, C. P.; E. C. Crawford, H. P.; O. J. Ames, S. W.; J. C. Davey, J. W.; C. A. Cotter, Scribe; Louis Kahn, Treas. The membership at last report was thirty-two.

Ruth Lodge, No. 54, Rebekah Degree, was organized September 27, 1879, with charter members as follows: R. W. Hathaway, Lizzie C. Hathaway, W. H. Cole, W. G. Worth, John S. Kerr, Mrs. J. S. Kerr, Mrs. M. Crawford, N. Clark, Mrs. M. A. Hall, Henry Hall, Mrs. D. M. Talbott, M. Talbott, Mrs. E. S. Waterhouse, J. W. Woodside, C. T. Woodside, A. E. Shadlich, E. C. Crawford, West Duley and Mrs. Sarah Duley. The present officers are: C. D. Burnett, N. G.; A. H. Rutherford, V. G.; Mrs. Mary Cotter, Sec.; C. A. Cotter, Treas. The membership is thirty.

Canton Manchester, No. 8, Patriarchs Militant, Oakdale, was organized February 20, 1884, with these charter members: R. W. Hathaway, Louis Kahn, C. A. Cotter, E. C.

Crawford, M. B. Mann, A. Arnold and M. Clark. The officers at organization were these: R. W. Hathaway, Commander; Louis Kahn, V. C.; E. C. Crawford, Sec.; M. B. Mann, Treas.; C. A. Cotter, O. G. The present officers are: R. W. Hathaway, Capt.; A. Arnold, Lieut.; S. T. Le Clert, Ensign; E. C. Crawford, Clerk; L. Kahn, Accountant. The membership is thirty-two.

The Odd Fellows' Hall, Oakdale, is a splendid building, a credit to the lodge which built it, and to the town. It cost, furnished, $10,000, is constructed of brick and stone, is two stories in height, with tower, and is very spacious and tastefully furnished. The cost was borne by Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F. The building committee consisted of the following members: E. C. Crawford, A. Arnold, M. Talbott, J. C. Davey and Louis Kahn.

Oakdale Parlor, No. 142, N. S. G. W., was organized July 8, 1889. The first officers were as follows: J. W. Dunlap, Past Pres.; W. A. Patterson, Pres.; C. W. Austin, 1st V. P.; G. T. Morrison, 2d V. P.; C. D. Burnett, 3d V. P.; C. W. Thompson, Marshal; M. A. Lewis, Treas.; George T. Bertolacci, Sec. The present membership is twenty-four, and the parlor may be said to be in a flourishing condition. The officers for 1892 are: C. D. Burnett, P. P.; W. J. Hughes, Pres.; J. M. Watson, 1st V. P.; J. R. Fleming, 2d V. P.; J. A. Chambret, 3d V. P.; W. A. Patterson, Marshal; M. A. Lewis, Treas.; J. W. Dunlap, Sec.; L. M. Hull, E. N. Crow and W. A. Patterson, Trustees.

Mistletoe Lodge, No. 88, K. of P., Oakdale, was organized September 1, 1883, by H. Harney, District Grand Chancellor, in Odd Fellows' Hall, with the following members: E. S. Waters, H. G. Waters, James McQuoid, C. U. Byington, D. F. Edwards, W. G. Sheldon, J. M. Newman, Edward Truehley, J. E. Burt, N. W. Curry, W. K. Ordway, J. C. Sheldon, J. C. Parker, F. H. Warner, J. Coffey, J. E. Ordway, A. F. Fugitt, M. V. Seeley, G. G. Heiteh, Edgar Pattee and L. L. Williams. The first officers were: E. S. Waters, P. C.; M. V. Seeley, C. C.; Edgar Pattee, V. C.; James McQuoid, M. at A.; J. M. Newman, P.; H. G. Waters, K. of R. and S.; D. F. Edwards, M. F.; W. G. Sheldon, M. E. The membership, January 1, 1892, was thirty-two, and the condition of the lodge is prosperous, there being about $1,000 in money and property on hand. The present officers are: G. R. Tucker, P. C.; J. W. Anderson, C. C.; Granville Prowse, V. C.; A. S. Dingley, P.; C. U. Byington, K. of R. and S., and M. of F.; C. A. Cotter, M. of E.; G. T. Morrison, M. at A.

The Oakdale *Graphic* is the oldest newspaper in Oakdale, having been started in 1884. It is ably edited by the proprietor, Mr. D. C. Baker. In politics it is independent.

The *Leader* is a Democratic weekly journal, and has been in existence since 1889. It was started by the firm of Sawyer & Holloway, and is now owned and edited by one of the original proprietors, Mr. W. C. Holloway.

Several enterprises of which Oakdale is the headquarters are mentioned in connection

with the industries with which they are identified elsewhere in this volume.

WATERFORD.

This is one of the bright new towns of the county, though old Waterford, which adjoins the new town site, was long a good trading point for the surrounding country. It is situated on the north bank of the Tuolumne river, about fourteen miles southeast of Oakdale, and about the same distance east of Modesto. The extension of the Stockton & Oakdale branch of the Southern Pacific railroad to Merced in 1891, was the cause of the building of the new town, which is quite a prosperous place.

The Waterford Land and Development Company was incorporated in 1891, with a capital stock of $100,000, and officers for the first term as follows: J. Haslacher, president; Louis Kahn, secretary; Directors: M. Esberg, B. Ettlinger, J. Haslacher, Louis Kahn, Chas. E. Welch, R. H. Bentley, Thomas B. Dorsey. This company purchased 250 acres of land where the town of Waterford now stands, and interested with them the Pacific Improvement Company; and the railroad company, when its line was built through the property, established a station there. The place has become quite important, and is steadily and rapidly advancing, and the company has sold a large proportion of its lots. Though only started in May, 1891, the town now contains many good buildings, warehouses, etc., and the building of the canal of the Modesto irrigation district, which runs only a quarter of a mile from the town, will further increase its prosperity by enhancing the producing capacity of the surrounding country. The officers and directors of the company remain the same as mentioned above, for the first term.

HICKMAN.

This town is directly across the Tuolumne river from Waterford, and has been entirely built since the extension of the Southern Pacific east side line to Merced.

The buildings are all new and of handsome architecture, including a commodious hotel, church, schoolhouse, store buildings, residences, a fine brick warehouse, etc.

Everything about the place gives evidence of the enterprise of those who are interested in building up the town, which, however, is too new to have a history of interest.

KNIGHT'S FERRY.

This is a quaint and picturesque-appearing town, situate about twelve miles northeast from Oakdale.

It derives its name from Captain Knight, who, a former hunter and trapper and follower of Fremont, located here early in 1849, and established the first ferry on the Stanislaus river. Being midway between Stockton, the starting point of supplies for the Southern mines, and Sonora, then supremely prosperous, the location was a good one, and proved the wisdom of the locator.

The ferry, upon the death of Captain Knight, became the property of Dent & Vantyn; the latter, who had been Knight's partner, afterward disposed of his interest to John and Lewis Dent, who were afterward for several years sole proprietors of the ferry,

hotel and pre-emption claim of land along the north bank of the river.

George W. Dent arrived with his family in 1852, and his wife is claimed to have been the first white woman in Knight's Ferry.

These Dents were related by marriage to U. S. Grant, who was a visitor here for a time in 1854, before his star had begun to rise.

From an article written by Mrs. D. M. Locke, in relation to Knight's Ferry, the following is extracted, her husband being the Yankee referred to:

"With the first company and team that ever made tracks on the direct route from Stockton to Knight's Ferry, there was a Yankee machinist who had an appreciative eye and a keen regret over the busy idleness of a fine water-power running to waste. He talked over the matter to Captain Knight, who strongly urged him to stake out a claim on the Stanislaus, and put up a sawmill then and there, offering also to come down with the dust that would be needed for the enterprise. Seeing no tangible 'dust,' the young man decided it would hardly be safe to test this generous promise, and on he went with his company. But those were the days when capital lurked and gave no sign.

"Coming again to prospect the old mill-site in 1853, he could join the laugh at his own expense when Captain Dent whisked from a safe the greatest oddity of an old buckskin bag about two feet long, and shaped like a gourd, with huge paunch at the bottom, and exclaimed, 'There, Mr. Locke, when Captain Knight offered to advance funds to build a mill, he had this packed full of gold dust, and no knowing how much more stowed away under his old bunk.'

"A business partnership was now formed, and the firm of Locke & Dent proceeded to put in the first permanent dam that ever crossed the Stanislaus.

"By June of 1854, their saw-mill was running and about four months later their flouring mill was grinding away upon some of the first wheat ever raised in this region, that has since become almost world-famed for its immense wheat crops."

This mill is now operated by Tulloch & Son, and their output has a high rank. They are mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Mayor Lane, who became a prominent man in this county, was one of the early settlers about Knight's Ferry, his location being about three miles below. He afterward moved into town and opened a large hotel, which was destroyed by fire later, and never rebuilt.

Knight's Ferry was in San Joaquin county until 1861, when it became a part of Stanislaus, and the next year county seat of the latter and continued so until Modesto became the seat of justice, as related elsewhere.

There has been a vast amount of mining along the river in this vicinity, but this industry has waned as the placers have been worked out until now it may be said to be a thing of the past.

There was a flood here in 1852, and a severe one in the winter of 1861-'62.

The Stanilaus *Index*, in its issue following the disaster was printed on brown wrapping

paper, and contained the following interesting account of the damage by the flood:

"We have endeavored to obtain this week, as nearly as possible, the extent of the damages sustained by our citizens. There is yot so much confusion that it is impossible to ascertain all the information we would desire, but in the list given below we think will be found those who have suffered most.

"Histres & Magendie, Stanislaus Flour Mill and a largo quantity of flour and grain, $30,000; Charles Mooney, shoe shop, stock and other buildings, $1,000; Buddington & Mand, Placer Hotel and furniture, $5,000; McLean & Bro., Main Street livery stable, hay, etc., $3,000; Bartlett & Jamison, saddlery shop, $800; French & Matthews, tinware and tools, $600; H. Linstead, damage to building and liquors, $1,000; C. S. S. Hill, damage to goods, $2,500; Lottman & Bro., saloon on Main street and brewery, $7,000; W. E. Stewart, building removed from lot, $250; J. E. W. Coleman, house and furniture, $500; H. Lind, clothing, $250; M. J. Dooly & Co., two large granaries, $7,000; S. Honigsborger, damage in filling up of cellar and destruction of goods, $500; T. W. Lane, large hall attached to the Metropolitan hotel, $800; J. C. White, liquors, etc., $300; Enslen & Wilson, butcher shop and barn, $1,500; Wm. A. Fisher, damage to building, $500; Connor & Dakin, blacksmith shop, tools, $1,400; McGlauflin & Dakin, two buildings and damage to lots, $2,000; McGlauflin, blacksmith tools, $600; Palmer & Allen, eight houses swept away besides the damage to their store and destruction of goods, $20,000; Oscar Boocher, dwelling-house, $600; R. M. Bryant lumber, $3,000; Dr. J. S. Coleman, building and drugs, $1,500; A. McSorley, house and property, $400; Pentland Bros., flume and other damage, $3,000; Jack Robinson, $100; H. Pander, $200; Stanislaus Bridge and Ferry Company, $20,000.

"We learn that the bridge company will commence immediately the construction of new bridges. Until then all communication with the mines above must necessarily be very difficult.

"Perhaps one of the most serious losses occasioned by the recent flood on the Stanislaus river is the partial destruction of the ditches that supply the mines of this vicinity with water.

"The Knight's Ferry and Table mountain ditch has sustained a loss of nearly a mile of flume at the upper end of the ditch, which probably cannot be replaced much short of $12,000. The dam is not materially injured.

"The San Joaquin ditch is nearly all washed away for a mile or more, and the dam is injured in some degree, but the water is still so high that it is difficult to tell how much. The damages are estimated at $1,200.

"We have been informed that heavy rains always occasion more or less sliding of the mountain sides along the line of the Columbia and Oak Flat ditches, and there is little doubt that they are now without the necessary watery element. If the rain comes down as it has for the past week, it will be a

long time before mining operations can be resumed."

There were many narrow escapes of individual settlers in the vicinity of the town, and altogether the flood was one never to be forgotten.

The Fisher brick building was repaired after the flood, and was purchased by the county and used as a courthouse and jail. This building was afterward sold to A. Hewell who became superior judge. Judge Hewell, was one of the most prominent citizens of Knight's Ferry, and then, as ever, a progressive man.

ABRAHAM SCHELL.

One of the strongest characters that ever became identified with Stanislaus county located at Knight's Ferry in July, 1856. This was Abraham Schell, who yet resides near the town, at the Red Mountain vineyard, which he has made famous. Mr. Schell was a banker at Knight's Ferry and a capitalist and enterprising man generally as well as one of the most brilliant lawyers of his time in California.

There is no one who has been more thoroughly identified than he with the history of Stanislaus county.

He was born at the town of Schoharie, Schoharie county, New York, on the 9th of November, 1817. His parents were Peter and Sophia (Dominick) Schell, both born in New York State. The mother was of French descent, her father having been a native of Paris, France. His father, Peter Schell, was born in Schoharie county, New York, and at the time of the Revolutionary war was a lad of twelve or fifteen years. The Schells were one of the prominent families of New York State who took up the cause of the patriots, the Schells of Mohawk being of this family. These were old John Christian Schell and his wife and eight sons, who were the especial objects of enmity of the Tories and their Indian allies. History records, as one of the most heroic affairs of that great struggle for freedom, the defense of their home by John Christian Schell and six of his sons against a determined onslaught by the celebrated Tory McDonald, leading a force of about 100 Indians and Tories. Two of his sons were captured before the defense of the house began. Assault after assault was made, and and the desperate attacking party resorted to every ruse and subterfuge to overcome the little band of heroes, but all in vain. Thirty Indians and Tories were killed and severely wounded, and at last the siege was raised, as a result of a piece of sharp practice on the part of the beleaguered little garrison. The parents of our subject both lived to a ripe age, the father dying at the age of eighty-four years, and the mother at eighty-three.

Abraham Schell, our subject, was reared in his native State, and was married December 5, 1839, at Cobbleskill, Schoharie county, to Miss Catharine Bellinger, with whom he attended school. Her father was John P. Bellinger. She is the only surviving member of the family. Mr. Schell was engaged in the wholesale grocery business at Albany, New York, in company with a cousin named Daniel Weidman, when news came of the discovery of gold in California. Being young

and impetuous, he, in company with seventeen others from the same city, started for the El Dorado of the West. They sailed from New York on January 13, 1849, in company with 134 emigrants for the Pacific coast via Cape Horn, in a "dug-out" of a 1,000 tons, by the name of Tarolinta, meaning Floating Rose, which was owned by the Griswolds of New York, and commanded by Captain Cave, a seasoned "old salt." The boat started amidst the boom of cannon, the ringing of bells, and the cheers of thousands who had come to witness their departure, to bid friends good-bye and wish them god-speed in their new and adventurous undertaking. There were many interesting episodes of this voyage, which are very interesting as related by Mr. Schell, but lack of space forbids extended quotation. The following is an amusing experience at Rio Janeiro, which point was reached on the 5th of March:

"All went ashore as soon as anchor was dropped and conveyance could be procured. Once on solid land, few failed to gratify their desires at any cost. for why be economical with money when they were going to the land of gold, where it could be picked up by the bushel? Samuel Pierson, of Troy, New York, had something to eat and drink at a restaurant. When he called for his bill, he was told it was two thousand reis! 'Two thousand reis!' exclaimed Samuel, in perfect astonishment, 'Why, I havn't so much money with me; I should have to go aboard and get more.' But it was presently explained to him that two thousand reis are equal to a dollar of our money, which Samuel paid, thinking he had gotten out of the scrape very cheaply. At another time he was told that his bill was sixteen dumps. 'Oh! d—n your dumps,' said Samuel; 'how much money do you want?'

Cape Horn was doubled on the 9th day of April, and on the 6th of July, 1849, the ship entered the harbor of San Francisco, and the passengers soon had an opportunity of seeing the city by the Golden Gate at close range, in which they were much disappointed, as a heavy wind prevailed at the time, which made walking unpleasant, and blew sand into their eyes; while the town, with its one frame house, was not what they had imagined. All goods had to be lightered ashore, and their effects were landed at a place called, for what reason they did not know, 'Happy Valley.' They found they had brought some things that would not be needed at all, and a surplus of others; and as the company, which was made up of bank clerks, hatters, merchants, carpenters and doctors, between whom there was no mutual bond of sympathy, had decided to disband, they sold off their surplus, some of the things bringing fabulous prices, and divided the proceeds among the members of the company. The money thus received nearly paid their expenses up to that time. The company soon scattered all over the State. Among their number was Mr. O'Brien, who subsequently became famous as a member of the bonanza firm of Flood & O'Brien."

Mr. Schell came to Stanislaus county in July, 1856, where he ever since has resided. In 1856 he loaned some money to the San Joaquin Water Company to complete their

mining ditch, then being constructed for the purpose of bringing water to the rich surface diggings, lying in and about Knight's Ferry. He was elected treasurer of the company, but his investment proved unprofitable, as he lost $25,000 by it. In 1868 he purchased three and one-half leagues of land, embraced in the Spanish grant known as the "Rancheria del Rio Estanislao," upon portions of which the Red Mountain vineyard and the village of Knight's Ferry are situated. Mr. Schell has made the Red Mountain vineyard and winery one of the most celebrated places in California, and its products, which rank with the best in the world, are all being taken by customers in the East. This vineyard is mentioned at length in another chapter of this volume.

Mr. Schell, when a practicing lawyer, was one of the most brilliant men at the bar, and there has not been a more prominent lawyer at the bar in Stanislaus county since its organization, than he. He is a pronounced liberal in his views, a fighter for liberty, like the Schells of Mohawk, and an advocate of all means of enlightenment. He has contributed weighty matter to the liberal literature of the day, and delivered addresses before some of the national liberal bodies which displayed marked ability. His writings have in them the quality of holding close the attention of the reader, while the mingled fire and pathos of his delivery in public reading or address has the power of thrilling the listener to a remarkable degree. He is a man of spendid intellect, whom one would scarcely think of in connection with commercial pursuits, yet in business he has displayed signal ability and made a marked success.

At their home on the Red Mountain vineyard ranch, Mr. and Mrs. Schell received the friends who had come to greet them on the occasion of their golden wedding, December 5, 1889. There was a large gathering of friends at this event, among the number being not only those who had known them so long as neighbors at Knight's Ferry, but many others from San Francisco, San Leandro, San José, Stockton, Modesto and other places, come to congratulate them on this happy occasion. The figures "1839–1889" placed in evergreens over an interior doorway as one of the home decorations at the time, greets the beholder to-day on entering the house. Mr. and Mrs. Schell are one of the exceptional couples to whom has been granted the privilege of living together in happiness for half a century. They are charming entertainers, not only on account of their genial hospitality, but also by reason of their superior intellect and refinement.

NEWSPAPERS.

The Knight's Ferry *Bee* was started during the mining excitement of 1859, by W. J. Collier, and was the first newspaper in Stanislaus county. It was a twenty-column sheet, and quite creditable to the publisher. It existed but a little over a year, its final publisher being J. B. Kennedy.

The second newspaper of the county was also started at Knight's Ferry, upon the ruins of the *Bee*, when the firm of Garrison & Whicher established the Stanislaus *Index* in 1861. The flood of January, 1862, played

havoc with the town, but the paper continued issue for a short time thereafter, and furnishes quite full information of the ravages of the waters in that vicinity. Publication was abandoned, however, early in 1862. In July of the same year the material was removed to Snelling, Merced county, where it was used in the publication of the first newspaper in that county--the Merced *Banner*.

KNIGHT'S FERRY BRIDGE.

The building of the substantial wagon bridge at Knight's Ferry proved of great convenience to travel. The controlling interest was purchased by Thomas Roberts in 1869, and it continued as a toll bridge until 1884, when it was purchased by the county.

BUENA VISTA.

This village, at the other end of the bridge across the Stanislaus river, from Knight's Ferry, contains a hotel, store, blacksmith shop, and several residences. It is an old place, but its identity is largely lost, being so near to and less important than its neighbor, Knight's Ferry.

NEWMAN.

This town is easily the most important place on the west side in Stanislaus county, and commands the trade of a large region, not only from this county but also from the northwestern portion of Merced county, which is close by.

When the west side line of the Southern Pacific railroad was built as far as Newman, construction was stopped, and the town remained the terminus of the road until 1891, when it was extended to Armona, there effecting a junction with the branch from Goshen through Hanford and Lemoore.

Although no longer a railroad terminus the position of Newman is well established, and the town must continue to progress on account of its advantageous position.

The name of the place was given it in honor of one of the first business men there, S. Newman, who had previously been conducting business at Hill's Ferry.

The building of Newman was a death-blow to Hill's Ferry, the business as well as the people of that old river town rapidly finding their way to the new town on the building of the railroad.

Newman has direct railroad communications with San Francisco, and all points north, east and south, and besides enjoys stage connections with the county seat and other places.

The town is represented in the newspaper field by the *Tribune*, a live weekly paper now published by D. B. Eachus. This paper first appeared in 1889, its founder being Peter Higgins.

TURLOCK.

The town of Turlock, in the southern portion of Stanislaus county, is located on the main line of the Central and Southern Pacific railroad, about thirteen miles south of Modesto. It was laid out as a town by John W. Mitchell, owner of the site, on the 21st of December, 1871, and has since become a good shipping and trading point.

The firm of Giddings & Ward, the pioneer merchants here, sold the first goods from their store on the 10th of January, 1872.

Turlock is essentially an agricultural town, as it is kept up entirely by the prosperous farming country which surrounds it. There are warehouses, stores, hotels, blacksmith shops and indeed everything necessary for an agricultural town, such as it is.

The town also keeps up a newspaper establishment, that of the Turlock *Times*, the latest addition to the press of Stanislaus county. It was started and is carried on by D. J. Foley, who at one time conducted the Daily *Press* at Modesto.

CERES.

This town, on the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad, between Modesto and Turlock, was laid out in 1874 by R. K. Whitmore, a large landholder of the vicinity. Though only a little over three miles from Modesto, this is quite a business point, and contains all the facilities usually found in a good agricultural town. The blacksmith and machine shop of Averill Brothers & Hall is a credit to the place.

SALIDA.

This is a small town kept up by the surrounding agricultural region, and is on the line of the Southern Pacific, between Modesto and Lathrop, being built on the Murphy ranch. It has warehouses, blacksmith shop, church, school, etc.

GRAYSON,

on the west side, is one of the old places of the county, but comparatively unimportant now, though much west-side produce has been shipped from here to market by river.

It was laid out by A. J. Grayson, a pioneer who located there in January, 1850.

LA GRANGE.

This place is perhaps the most historical within the limits of Stanislaus county. In the days when mining was the one paramount industry of California, La Grange was a place of considerable importance, teeming with life and business.

The usual ups and downs of mining towns were encountered as the years went by, and eventually it waned until the life had almost vanished from it. The building of the great irrigation canals of the county, under the Wright act, however, with the construction of the immense joint dam near by, has given La Grange a fresh lease of life, and once again it is a busy place, with prosperity in several different lines of business.

The site upon which the town was built was taken up for a ranch by Elam Dye, in 1852. Shortly after this some fifty Frenchmen located on a bar of the river about one mile below the site of the present town, and began mining for gold. It had not been supposed previous to this time that there was any chance for profitable mining here, but the enterprising Frenchmen soon brought to light the existence of rich placer diggings. When satisfied of the richness of their discovery they sent word to their friends of the same nationality, who flocked there in great numbers, and it was thus that their camp took the name of French bar.

When attempts were made to collect the foreign miners' license from the Frenchmen, they refused to pay, and resisted the efforts of the officers to forcibly collect the tax. A posse of citizens was sworn in, which under

officer Kelley arrested fifty of the French bar miners. They were taken before I. D. Morley and C. W. Salter, acting as justices of the peace, and fined for resisting an officer.

In 1854 there was a great mining excitement here, and claims were staked out by newcomers all along the river, above and below the town, and extending into the hills surrounding. Then began an era of unusual prosperity for the place.

Having the advantage, like Knight's Ferry, of being on the direct route to the northern mines, as well as to the mining towns of Coulterville, Mariposa, Hornitas and Tuolumne mines, it soon attained importance, not only as a mining town but also as a trading point for a large mining country.

With increasing importance and more advanced airs, the old cognomen of French bar became too undignified for the more refined tastes of the community, and the name of La Grange was finally bestowed upon the rising young city.

And city it indeed it was in appearance in the hey-day of its prosperity. There were a number of good business blocks, some of them of creditable architecture, while interior fittings were something quite grand for a country so far out of the world as the mountain districts of California then were.

The accommodations furnished by the hotels of La Grange in the prosperous mining days were really excellent, while there were of course many fine saloons, as well as finely equipped general stores, drug stores, livery establishments, etc.

The constant in-pour of gold from the mines made finances easy with all, and money was spent freely and in many cases lavishly and extravagantly.

Traveling circuses and theatrical companies were almost certain of a golden harvest here, and it is said that 4,000 to 5,000 people have congregated under a circus tent to witness the performance by the combinations of Lee & Marshall and others known to the Californians of those days.

When Stanislaus county was set off from Tuolumne, La Grange was thrown just within the borders of the new county, although it was vehemently claimed by people of Tuolumne that the town was really within their limits, and that they were unjustly deprived of it.

When located in the new county, La Grange became ambitious for the county seat honors, and being possessed of a considerable portion of the voting population, as well as of the assessable wealth of the county, its claim met with much encouragement, culminating in the election of December, 1851, which resulted in favor of La Grange. The town was the seat of government thenceforward until 1862, when Knight's Ferry took from it the honor.

Like all towns of the character of La Grange in the halcyon mining days, it was the custom of good as well as bad citizens to go armed, though there were few serious affrays in comparison with what might have been expected.

On the 26th of March, 1856, an outbreak occurred, however, which was deplored by all good citizens. On account of the location of

some swamp and overflowed land in the neighborhood of Dickinson's Ferry, resulting in long litigation, there was a deep ill-feeling between the Summers boys and the Dickinsons, which culminated when the case finally came on for trial on the day named.

The Dickinson party, consisting of some fifteen or twenty, had left the court-room, and it was supposed had started home. George and Frank Summers remained in the room, conversing with each other, and had also turned to leave the building, when James Dickinson entered with some of his friends, and blows were soon struck, followed by drawing of pistols, and a little later by a general fusilade. George Summers was knocked down and shot at several times while lying on the floor, and Franklin Summers was instantly killed, receiving three bullets in his body. Martin Anderson, a young man and a friend of Dickinson, received a ball in his abdomen, causing death. Kincaid, another of the Dickinson party, received a wound in the thigh, from which he recovered; and John Clark, then deputy sheriff, received a wound in the arm while endeavoring to quell the affray.

During the civil war there was here, as elsewhere, considerable feeling displayed, and on occasions intense excitement, especially when political meetings were being held. "Andy" Anderson, a loyal Kentuckian, who kept a large hotel, erected a tall flag pole on the little plaza across the way from his place, and whenever victory had favored the Union cause he would run up the American flag and let it remain floating several days.

In 1862 the county seat was removed from La Grange, and the mining excitement having subsided the town gradually lost its former prestige and began to show signs of decline.

From time to time since then, however, there have been spirits which brought back temporarily at least a portion of the old life and vigor.

In 1871 the La Grange Ditch and Hydraulic Mining Company, representing some $5,000,000 of capital, was organized, the object being to carry the water of the Tuolumne river upon the mines back of the town. A great many mines belonging to miners and residents of the town were bought up; old town lots were purchased to be mined out, and in the course of the operations of this company a great portion of the town nearest the river has been washed down by the hydraulic process from these mines.

M. A. Wheaton and other San Francisco parties also spent considerable money in buying up water rights, constructing dams, ditches, etc., for mining purposes. One of these ditches is eighteen miles long, and cost with the other improvements made in connection several hundred thousand dollars.

There are other villages in the county, but comparatively uninteresting in a historical point of view, not having achieved importance sufficient to to warrant separate mention.

DEAD TOWNS.

Tuolumne City, one of the towns of former days whose glory is now departed, was founded by Paxon McDowell, the owner of the land, in 1850, at a point on Tuolumne

river, three miles from the San Joaquin. He was induced to locate the town by parties who pointed out to him the fact that his place was the head of navigation, and that the road from there to the mines was a good and dry one. Nearly 160 acres of land was laid off in lots and streets by Richard P. Hammond, surveyor and engineer, and these lots soon began to find ready purchasers at high prices. Among the others interested with McDowell in the sale of these lots were Benjamin Lippincott, Lane Gallagher, W. Swasey and others, and some of these men showed ability in handling such property that would rival that displayed by the shrewdest real-estate men of to-day. In July, 1850, lots sold as high as $1,000, in which month the population was 200 souls.

Among those who invested was N. W. Wells, an old resident of Stanislaus county, who had come here from Stockton. He bought $1,300 worth of lots, and soon embarked in mercantile business on a substantial scale. Being now interested in the growth of the town, and recognizing the importance of utilizing the facilities of navigation, he went to San Francisco and made arrangements with the agent of the steamboat company, Mr. Blair, to freight the steamer Georgia one trip for the neat sum of $6,000. After that she was run by the owner until the water became too low for further navigation. Steamer days were important events in the history of Tuolumne City, and every one turned out to greet each arrival. It is related that The Mint, a little iron steamer that was the first to ascend the Tuolumne river in the spring of 1850, received a regular ovation.

There was a large Mexican emigration from Sonora in 1850, which crossed the river at this point, the number being estimated as high as 5,000, though this is probably an exaggeration. It is a fact, however, that Dr. William M. Ryer (afterward a wealthy citizen of San Francisco), who owned the small ferryboat there, took in over $5,000 ferriage in a short time, his charges being $1 a head for travelers, and a little more for animals.

The haudlers of the town site, seeing that there was not sufficient water for permanent and successful navigation, and that consequently their claim that the place would rival Stockton would never be realized, desired to get away after selling some $60,000 worth of lots. They consequently proposed to McDowell that he should retain the unsold portion of the city, while they should keep the amount already realized, which proposition was accepted. It is hardly necessary to add that this was the last of Tuolumne City for many years, as the people soon began to move elsewhere, only three or four pioneer families remaiuing.

N. W. Wells was married at Tuolumne City, January 16, 1851, to Miss M. J. Grinnell, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Woods, of Stockton, and this is the first authentic marriage in the county. The settling up of the surrounding country and cultivation of the soil to wheat, beginning in 1866, however, gave the town another impetus, and the firm of Covert & Co., who began business there in February, 1867, were

hut the preenrsors to a remarkahly rapid growth, which soon again made the name of Tuolumne City known and respected. Navigation of the river once more commenced, and all again was life and activity.

On February 2, 1868, the Stanislaus County *News*, edited and published hy J. D. Spencer, made its appearance, containing twonty-two columns of readiug matter. In that year an agricultural fair was also held hero.

In 1869, the steamor Tuolumne City was hnilt by a company of citizens to run in competition with tho old line. In this year large quantities of grain, considering the newness of the surrounding country in agriculture, were shipped from Tuolumne City, and 10,000 tons of wheat found transportation hence hy rivor.

Tho construction of the railroad east of the place, however, and the huilding up of Modesto, sounded the death knell of Tuolumne City, whose inhabitants, in 1870 and 1871, moved almost in a hody to Modosto. Tho old town has now only the importanee which attaches to former eminence, and that nsually accorded tho voting place of a precinct, which is all that it now is.

In 1850, Empire City was surveyed and laid out in town lots by a company, it being expected that the place would be the most important of all tho interior towns, not excepting Stockton. Tho location was on the left hank of tho Tuolumne river, at a point twenty miles ahove its confluenco with the San Joaquin, the distanco from Stockton being thirty miles in a southeasterly direction. One of the company who laid out the town was Major John G. Marvin, a lawyer from Boston, who attained some celebrity by reason of his connection with Major Savage, of the Western Division United States Army, whose Quartermaster he was during the Indian troubles. Marvin was with Savage when the latter was killed by Judge Hardy, on King's river, August 16, 1852.

In 1851, Empiro City was made a station for army supplies, conveyed hy vessels from San Francisco hay through the San Joaquin river to this place, the head of navigation on the Tuolumne river. Freight for Fort Miller, Fort Tejon and other points, was taken from here overland, affording a thriving business for three stores, one three-story hotel, two boarding houses, a blacksmith shop for shoeing Government stock, a shop for repairing harness, saddles and wagons; also two corrals where many vaqueros were engaged in breaking and training mules.

It is claimed by some that the population of Empire reached as high as 2,000, but it is doubtful if that number of people were ever gathered there at one time, even including those encamped there and living in tents.

However, a hrief space of time sufficed to change all this. The flood waters of 1852 and 1853 drove the people away until there was not a corporal's guard left to keep up a pretense of the former life and activity.

In the summer of 1853, Eli S. Marvin secured a pre-emption claim to the site, and erected a building which was named the Travelers' Home, and which was the only human habitation from Stanislaus river,

twelve miles north, to Hill's Ferry, on the San Joaquin, twenty miles south.

Empire City, through the efforts of Eli S. Marvin and others, was selected as the county seat of Stanislaus county at an election held in November, 1854, succeeding Adamsville, the first seat of justice, and again became a place of importanco. When the county seat was removed to La Grange, however, by virtue of an election held on December 20, 1855, the place again started on the down grade.

The place is now a wheat field, and a view of the surroundings gives no indication of the one-time importance of Empire City.

Paradise, one of the dead towns of Stanislaus county, was located about five miles above Tuolumne City, on the same side of the Tuolumne river. It took its start from the settling up and agricultural development of the surrounding country, W. J. Houston, the pioneer merchant, beginning business in the fall of 1867. It became a good trading point, but on the building of the railroad and starting of Modesto it went the way of Tuolumne City, its business men and inhabitants generally moving to the new town.

Westport, nearly opposite Paradise, took its start in 1868, and was for a time a shipping and trading point.

The M. E. Church of Westport was organized March 13, 1861, in the joint residence of John Davies, Sr., and J. V. Davies, by J. P. Hale, a missionary. It was then known as the Adamsville Methodist Episcopal Church. Services were afterward held in the school house until the erection of a church edifice in 1880. The first trustees were: John Davies, Joel Griffin and L. J. Morrow.

Hill's Ferry may also be classed with the towns which have given way under the pressure of new conditions. It was for quite a while the head of navigation on the San Joaquin, but boats began going much higher up the river. Hill's Ferry was quite an important trade center and source of supply for a large region, but the building of the west-side line of the Southern Pacific railroad, and consequent building of the town of Newman, ended the usefulness of the town.

The town of Adamsville, which was started in the winter of 1849, and was named in honor of its founder, Dr. Adams, obtained whatever importance that now attach to it, from the fact that it was the first county seat, having been selected at an election held on the 10th of June, 1854. In November of the same year, a second submission of the question to a popular vote resulted in the removal of the county seat of justice to Empire City, and Adamsville lost the prestige which the location had given it. There was not much town to go down, but what there was never amounted to anything thereafter.

Keller's Bar, the only dead mining town in Stanislaus county that ever reached any position of consequence, at one time had a population of 500 inhabitants. It was for a time a prosperous place, and the diggings were good while they lasted.

Other dead towns which never amounted to much at any time in their history were: Stanislaus City, laid out in the spring of 1850, near the junction of the Stanislaus and

San Joaquin rivers, a steamboat landing place at that time having about seventy-five inhabitants; Crescent City, a hopeful of 1851, on the Tuolumne river about two miles above Dry creek; and Horrsville, laid out in 1852 by Dr. Horr, and claiming to be the head of navigation on the Tuolumne.

CALAVERAS COUNTY.

BOUNDARIES AND AREA.

CALAVERAS county is bounded on the north and northwest by Amador county, on the east and southeast by Alpine and Tuolumne, and on the southwest by San Joaquin and Stanislaus. It contains upwards of 1,000 square miles of territory, being about equal in this respect to the State of Rhode Island. It is about fifty-four miles in length, northeast and southwest, and thirty-two miles across its western border.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The surface of the county presents a series of rolling hills and small valleys, the hills, where uncultivated, usually being covered with a scattering growth of oak or pine timber, varied in some places by chapparal brush.

Extending along the northern boundary of the county is the Mokelumne river, tributary to which, and in the county, is the south fork of the Mokelumne, with numerous branches.

Dividing the county from Tuolumne is the Stanislaus river, which has, as tributaries lying in this county, Mill, Coyote, Six-Mile, Angel's, Black and Rock creeks.

Running through the county, midway between the important streams mentioned, is the Calaveras river, with its tributaries, the Jesus Maria, San Antonio creek, Middle Fork and South Fork.

Many springs are found in the foothills, which supply the purest of water in perennial flow.

Though this water supply is largely drawn upon for mining and irrigating purposes, still but an inconsiderable percentage is utilized in the county, and this great essential California prosperity is in sufficient quantities in Calaveras county to more than meet all demands that may be made upon it for any and all purposes.

The various gradations of surface afforded by the change from the lower portions of the county, where it emerges from the San Joaquin valley until it reaches the ruggod Sierra Nevada peaks of Alpine, offer a range of scenery delightful to the eye of the lover of the beautiful in nature. From many points can be seen at one time the eternal snow-capped peaks of the Sierras and below the beautiful valley decked out in green and blossom.

CLIMATE.

From the peculiar formation and location

of the county the salubrity of the climate is remarkable, and widely varied. Divided climatically, the western or valley portion, with an average width of ten miles, has an average mean annual temperature of from 60 degrees to 68 degrees. The foothill section adjoining, to a width of thirty-two miles, has an average mean temperature of from 52 degrees to 60 degrees, and the remaining portion of the eastern end, being of a higher altitude, has a mean average temperature of from 44 degrees to 52 degrees. Some snow falls in that portion of the county; so it can be seen that the winters vary from a semi-tropical temperature to one that is similar to the Southern States. The coldest weather recorded within the limits of the county was in June, 1888, when the whole State was visited by the nearest approach to a genuine blizzard that was ever experienced in the history of California. At that time, according to the report of the United States Weather Bureau, the thermometer registered as the lowest for the season as follows: Los Angeles, June 10, 30.9 degrees; San Francisco, 29.7 degrees. At Riverside, January 15, 25 degrees; Sacramento City, January 15, 19 degrees; Auburn, 12 degrees; while at Mokelumne Hill, San Andreas, Valley Spring, Copperopolis, Burson, Wallace and Jenny Lind in Calaveras county, it averaged 22 degrees above zero, thus proving by actual comparison how well this lower section of the county is adapted to the sensitive fruits of the citrus family. In this the most severe cold spell recorded since 1814, the mercury in the middle belt of the county fell to zero.

From May until October the county is without storms. From October to May frequent warm and abundant rains bless the land. The summers are similar to all the inland counties of California. The thermometer may linger about 100 degrees at midday, but the nights are invariably cool and refreshing, and fully compensate for the heat of the day. The absence of fogs and consequent dryness of the atmosphere take from the mid-day heat the sultry and oppressive character of the atmosphere in the lower counties.

THE SOIL.

There are a variety of soils in the county, each variety possessing desirable qualities. All of the soil, however, is impregnated to a greater or less extent with granite, slate and limestone particles. Limestone abounds throughout the county, and the rains percolating through these limestone hills, dissolve its particles, only to mix them with other soil lower down. Lime is a great fertilizer, and the foothill region will ever be constantly renewed by the process from the vast limestone deposits in the mountains. The higher mountains of this county are composed principally of gigantic boulders and ledges of granite. From the effects of the weather, snow, frost and rain, these exposed particles are disintegrated and the fine sand is constantly being washed down to enrich the soil of the lower foothills. The lower foothills are a succession of strata of slate formation. This slate is generally very soft and disintegrates and

"THE SENTINELS" AND PAVILION,
CALAVERAS GROVE,
315 ft. High.

breaks up very easily. It will then be seen that the foothill soil is composed chiefly of granite, slate and limestone. Mixed with these soils are at times gravel, clay, gypsum and other deposits. It not unfrequently happens that on one eighty-acre farm every one of these varieties of soil are to be found. All that is needed is intelligence to work them to a profit. To particularize, the northeastern part of the county is granite soil; following this comes the red loam of the foothills, then the sandy, alluvial soil of the plains; next the black, sandy loam of the bottom-lands. In the granite belt the more hardy fruits, the apple, pear and plum, with the vine, thrive, while in the red-loamy hillsides is found the paradise for fruit and vine culture. The plains are largely given to raising grain. The rich river-bottoms grow, without irrigation, fruits of all description, together with large tracts of corn and melons.

The loamy hillsides of the foothill section are tinged a dull red by the ferruginous ocher which abounds. Many fruits require such soil in order to be produced to their greatest perfection. The peach, olive and fig demand this soil, while the wines made from grapes grown on the soil in Calaveras county are pronounced by Messrs. Kohler & Frobling, the well-known wine merchants, unexcelled. This soil is adapted to irrigation; it is loose enough to receive water without baking, while the drainage is perfect. The river-bottom lands are easily cultivated and require no irrigation, as the ground is always moist. The sandy alluvial soil of the plains is strong and deep; fruit grows well without irrigation on these soils, but requires thorough cultivation that the moisture ascending by capillary attraction may be arrested by the loose soil of the surface, which may be said to act as a mulch.

THE CALAVERAS BIG TREES.

This celebrated grove is situated in a small valley near the headwater of San Antonio creek, and five miles east of the falls of that stream, which, it may be here remarked, are about 150 feet in height, and surrounded by beautiful scenery. This grove, which is about sixteen miles northeast of Murphy's, is called the North Grove, and contains ninety-three trees of the Sequoia family, not counting those of from one to ten years' growth.

Several parties claim to have been the first to discover these forest wonders, Mr. John Bidwell, of Butte county, being among the number. But the neighboring pioneers who have investigated the merits of the claimants have decided that to Mr. Dowd belongs honor of having first reported their existence. In the vicinity of the grove all varieties of trees attain an unusual size, being giants in themselves. This great size of the surrounding trees has a tendency to dwarf the appearance of the greater Sequoias. But when their measurements are taken and the space measured on the home lawn, far removed, their great size seems to be incredible.

The North Grove contains ten trees that are thirty feet or more in diameter. The fallen "Father of the Forest" is estimated to have been 450 feet high, and forty feet in

diameter, and to-day this uprooted monster is a thing of grandeur.

In 1853 one of the largest trees was cut down. The stump of this tree was smoothed off and is used for a dancing floor which can accommodate sixteen couples on the floor at at one time. Through one of the fallen trees a person may ride on horseback for the distance of 200 feet. The "Pioneer's Cabin" allows the passage of a loaded coach through its base, while far above its limbs wave their salutation to the traveler. The "New York," with a diameter of thirty-five feet and a height of 400 feet, will give to the stranger an idea by comparison of the wonders of the grove. "Smith's Cabin" has an interior of 16 x 22 feet, while the tree, despite its hollowness, extends 340 feet skyward. "Old Goliah," his neighbor, has fallen, and his 105 feet of circumference and 261 feet of length mark him as one of the fallen monarchs. Not far from the "Two Sentinels" may be seen the towering form of old "Dowd," named in honor of the first white man who discovered the grove.

THE SOUTH GROVE.

This grove is distant six miles from the North Grove, and contains some five specimens of the Sequoia family. All the old trees, whether standing or fallen, show marks of having been visited at some remote period by fire, while sugar pines 275 feet high growing close to the Sequoia have never been touched by fire.

The age of these old forest giants have been variously estimated, but since botanists have disposed of the theory that each ring represents a year of growth, the guesses made on this basis lose their value. They are undoubtedly very old, however, though hardly dating back into the past so far as some suppose.

OTHER NATURAL WONDERS.

The new Calaveras cave, three-quarters of a mile from Murphy's, presents many wonderful and beautiful features, one of the most striking being the coral chamber, with its floor, walls and ceiling of rich and delicately colored coral. The owner of the cave, W. J. Mercer, is also its discoverer. Hundreds of people visit this wonderful place each year. See sketch of Mr. Mercer.

At Cave City is another vast cave, in a limestone formation, in which are upward of twenty explored chambers and two lakes.

At both these places there are excellent accommodations for visitors.

There are two natural bridges, distant from Murphy's about six miles, and spanning Coyote creek, which are also among the sights dear to the heart of the tourist.

AGRICULTURE.

Calaveras can hardly be ranked as an agricultural county, and indeed is hardly thought of in that connection by most people who are accustomed to regard mining as the one and only interest of the county.

However, placer mining has largely given way to farming on a moderate scale, and the productions of the farms in barley, hay, potatoes and vegetables, have been of the highest class, and supplied to a home market at good prices, being principally disposed of in the mining regions.

FRUIT-GROWING

is destined to become one of the most important industries of Calaveras county, and when the development reaches a state in some measure commensurate with the possibilities, the county will undoubtedly rank, as its advantages warrant, among the very best in the State.

Men of enterprise and capital from other portions of the State have been quick to recognize the fact that the superior quality of fruits grown in Calaveras county will in time give them a great advantage over those of the lower valley, and some quite extensive planting has been done by them. F. P. Madden, of Stockton, has a splendid orchard set in a variety of deciduous fruits in the Burson district. H. H. Moore, also of Stockton, Mr. Littlehale, J. M. Lemon, H. Turner and others have also joined the list of Calaveras horticulturists. All of them have planted olives to a greater or less extent, and they are found, by actual experiences in all stages of growth, to be a great success here without the aid of irrigation.

Apples are a prominent fruit product of the county, inasmuch as the conditions that here obtain are altogether favorable to their growth. In the eastern part of the county, where the rainfall is greater and the summers cooler, the choicest apples are produced, and this district has been called the "apple belt," though nearly all portions are favorable to this fruit.

The peaches grown in the county are also of delicious flavor, pears, apricots, plums, nectarines, prunes, Japanese persimmons, English walnuts, figs and almonds, all do well here, and in the case of most of them the conditions are especially favorable.

In the case of most of the citrus fruits, very little comparatively has been attempted in Calaveras, though there are instances of splendid results produced in isolated cases. At Campo Seco orange trees may be seen which are over thirty years old, and which bear large crops annually. Mr. Janes, near the reservoir, has also thrifty orange trees, some of which are of the second generation, having been grown from seed and cuttings of the first ones, planted upward of thirty years ago, the second lot having been also long in bearing and producing splendid fruit. At Jenny Lind, Poverty Bar, Robinson's Ferry, San Andreas and other points, oranges mature well. At Mokelumne Hill, at the elevation of some 1,300 feet, oranges have been tried and do remarkably well, which is somewhat of an anomaly for that elevation. At the Citrus Fair held in Sacramento City in the year 1886, Mr. Suesdorff, of Mokelumne Hill, exhibited a branch containing a cluster of forty oranges which took the first prize as the best cluster. The first trees planted in the county were seedlings and therefore the fruit is not so large as the improved varieties, but is of a delicious flavor. Of late years the better varieties have been selected and some of them are coming into bearing this year—1890. Mrs. O'Neal of Valley Spring and Mr. Suesdorff of Mokelumne Hill have some young trees of the Washington Navel variety, which are producing some splendid oranges, much larger than have ever before been seen

in the county. Mr. Wheat, on the San Andreas road, has a few orange trees in bearing, and also one extra large lemon tree, which has been in bearing several years. The citrus belt may be generally described as embracing the northwestern end of the county, and there the orange, lemon, citron and olivo thrive with such luxuriance as to warrant the statement that Calaveras is the equal of any of the foothill counties in its availability for citrus culture.

VITICULTURE.

If, as some predict, the culture of the vine is to ultimately become the principal industry of the foothill counties of California, then certainly Calaveras will aspire to the leadership, as the conditions here existing are altogether favorable.

The vines planted by the early settlers were all of the variety which has become generally known as the "Mission," but all the late planting has been confined to the choicest imported varieties.

For wine-making the irrigation of the vines is entirely unnecessary. This industry has been carried on successfully for many years. At Mokelumne Hill there are two wineries, turning out about 17,000 gallons annually. At Poverty Flat are wine cellars and a distillery for making grape brandy. John Oeters, on San Antonio ridge, eight miles from San Andreas, has quite a good-sized vineyard and winery, and there are a number of others who have been successfully raising wine grapes for years.

Mr. Southwick, whose place is near Milton, is the pioneer raisin-grower of Calaveras. He has thirty-five acres of Muscats, grafted on resistant roots, which have grown finely. He has shipped many tons of splendid raisins to the Eastern markets, and has done much to develop a new industry.

There have been up to this time no drawbacks to vine-growing in this county, such as phylloxera and the like, and altogether the outlook for this industry is very favorable.

CANALS, IRRIGATION AND MINING.

There are now in Calaveras county upwards of 525 miles of artificial water ditches, but although these figures seem formidable they represent but a small part of the possibilities in that direction. A reference to what has been done in the way of canal work will be found of great interest in connection with the problem of progress and advancement.

The Union Water Company, in the southeastern portion of the county, with its ninety miles of ditches, takes 10,000 inches of water from the north fork of the Stanislaus river at a point about eight miles from the extreme eastern boundary. In addition their reservoirs hold in store an amount of water sufficient to supply 500 inches a day for twelve months. This water is distributed through the district around Big Trees, Murphy's, Vallecito, Douglas Flat, Angel's Camp, Altaville and thence to Copperopolis.

Joining the Union Water Company's ditch on the north is the

Table Mountain Ditch, which takes 500 inches of water from San Antonio creek and conveys it to Sheep Ranch; also,

The Ide Ditch, which covers twenty-

five miles of country, flowing to El Dorado, Cave City, Old Gulch, San Andreas and vicinity. The south and middle forks of the Mokelumne river cover the country between Railroad Flat and West Point. The middle fork carries an average of 1,000 inches. The Blue lakes, with a capacity of 10,000,000,000 gallons, empty into the south fork of the Mokelumne river, while the north fork of the same river has a natural site for a reservoir that can be made to hold 800,000,000 gallons of water, an amount which is more than sufficient to supply the wants of Oakland and San Francisco. This system was once surveyed and thought to be feasible for that purpose.

Clark Ditch.—The Clark ditch takes its water from the south fork of the Mokelumne near the Calaveras Big Trees. It extends thence westerly over a belt of country about thirty-two miles long. This system can be extended to cover all the county lying below in the northwestern corner. Here is water without limit only awaiting capital to carry its wealth-giving stream to every quarter section of land within the limits described. Joining this system on the extreme north is the

West Point Ditch, taking 400 inches of water from the middle fork of the Mokelumne river at a point six miles east of West Point and conveying it thence to West Point and vicinity. Following the Clark ditch into the valleys are the

Mokelumne and Campo Seco Canal and Water Company's Ditches.—One ditch takes 1,000 inches of water from the south fork of the Mokelumne river two and a half miles northeast from Glencoe. Their reservoir near Railroad Flat affords, in addition, a daily supply of 200 inches of water for the three months. This extensive canal system covers and supplies Mokelumne Hill, Glencoe, Campo Seco, Valley Spring Burson, Wallace and Camanche.

The Salt Spring Valley Reservoir, which was formerly the source of supply for the North Hill mine located near Milton, is another considerable source from which to obtain water for irrigating purposes, and is being intelligently used to develop new industries in that district.

Lancha Plana and Poverty Bar Ditch.—This ditch takes its water from the main branch of the Mokelumne river at Italian bar, and after passing out of Calaveras leads into the counties of Amador and San Joaquin, reaching a point in the latter county within fourteen miles of Stockton.

Storage Reservoirs.—These ditches are at times taxed to their utmost capacity to supply the demand made upon them for mining purposes, yet the fact remains that a good and sufficient supply for all purposes can be readily obtained by a system of storage reservoirs. The many convenient gulches and cañons afford splendid opportunities for their easy construction. United States Government engineers have recently reported two extremely favorable locations for reservoirs, one on the headwaters of the Calaveras river and the other on a tributary of the Stanislaus, and more are likely to be found on further investigation.

MINING.

Marshall discovered gold at Coloma on the 19th of January, 1848, and the date of his arrival at Sutter's Fort with his specimens to display to Captain Sutter is given as the 2d of February, 1848, the very day on which the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was concluded in Mexico, by which California, with her golden wealth, then to the world all unknown, was transferred to the United States.

It was some time afterward before the discovery was generally authenticated, and then there was a rush for the streams all through the foothill counties.

The mines of some portions of Calaveras were among the first to be exploited, and Angel's camp, Murphy's camp and Mokelumne Hill soon became three of the most noted localities in California.

Considerable attention is given to mining and early history at Angel's in the chaptor devoted to that town.

The Mokelumne river was successfully prospected in the summer of 1848, and some soldiers of Stevenson's regiment discovered Rich Gulch at Mokelumne Hill. The placers hereabouts were of exceptional richness, and paid heavily for years.

One of the first large nuggets taken out at Mokelumne Hill was found in November, 1848, in a prospect hole where, as the story runs, a Frenchman was fishing for a frog in a prospect hole, and seeing a speck of gold went to work with his pocket-knife and took out a nuggot which he sold for $2,150.

John Murphy discovered the diggings at what became known as Murphy's Camp, and where the town of Murphy's is now located, in the early fall of 1848. He put a number of Indians at work, and according to current report at the time took out $1,500,000 before the close of the wet season of 1848. Even if the amount was much less his success is certainly known to have been very great.

One miner realized from his work at Murphy's Camp, the first winter, $80,000.

The mines at Carson Hill, near Angel's, produced almost fabulous amounts, and some of the greatest deposits of gold ever known have been found there.

Walter Colton, Alcalde of Monterey, visited the gold fields of Calaveras and Tuolumne in 1848, and a few extracts from his diary during October, 1848, will be found of interest as bearing on the early gold discoveries of this region:

"1848, October 12.—We are camped in the center of the gold mines, in the heart of the richest deposits, where many hundreds are at work. All the gold-diggers were excited by the report that a solid pocket of gold had been found on the Stanislaus. In half an hour a motley crowd, with crow-bars, pick-axes, spades and wash-bowls went over the hills in the direction of the new deposits. I remained and picked out from a small crevice of slate rock a piece weighing a half-ounce.

"October 13.—I started for the Stanislaus diggings. It was an uproarious life, the monte table with its piles of gold glimmering in the shade. The keeper of the bank was a woman. The bank consisted of a pile of gold weighing perhaps a hundred pounds.

They seemed to play for the excitement, caring little whether they won or lost. It was in this ravino that a few wecks since the largest lump of gold found in California was discovered. Its weight was twenty-three pounds, and it was in nearly a pure state. Its discovery shook the wholo mines.

"October 14.—A new deposit was discovered this morning near the falls of the Stanislaus. An Irishman had gone there to bathe, and in throwing off his clothes had dropped his knife, which slipped into a crevice, and in getting it he picked up gold-dust. He was soon tracked out, and a storm of picks were splitting the rocks.

"October 15.—Quite a sensation was produced by the arrival from Stockton of a load of provisions and whisky. The price of the former was: Flour, $2 per pound; sugar and coffee, $4. The whisky was $20 per quart. Coffee-pots and sauce-pans were in demand, while one fellow offered $10 for the privilege of sucking with a straw from the bung of the whisky receptacle. All were soon in every variety of inebrioty.

"October 16.—I encountered to-day, in a ravine some three miles distant, among the gold washers, a woman from San José. She was at work with a large wooden bowl by the side of a stream. I asked her how long she had been there, and how much gold she averaged per day. She replied: "Three weeks, and an ounce."

"October 18.—A German, this morning, picking a hole in the ground near our camping tree, struck a piece of gold weighing about three ounces. As soon as it was known some forty picks were flying into the earth, but not another piece was found. In a ravine, a little girl this morning picked up what she thought a curious stone, and brought it to her mother, who found it a lump of gold weighing six or seven pounds."

And so it went. One rich place after another was found, and many of the miners kept jumping about from place to place, sometimes bettering their fortunes and sometimes the reverse.

The day of placer mining, however, is about gone, and the mining of to-day is a very different affair. While before all the equipment absolutely necessary was a pick, pan and shovel, and the other equipments up to the hydraulic monitor were luxuries, to-day, in the altered condition of affairs, there must be a heavy outlay for machinery such as is necessary in quartz-mining, while even prospecting is a very different matter from the search for placers.

Capitalists with the necessary funds to carry on work of any required magnitude have appeared, however, with the requisite faith in the hidden wealth of Calaveras to undertake the vast outlay necessary to develop the industry.

In quartz-mining there has been no retrogression, but on the contrary so much advancement, and the prospects are so favorable, that the mining industry is again attaining its old importance. Reference to individual efforts may be found in connection with the mention of various localities.

Though the reputation of Calaveras county as a great mining region has been generally

obtained on account of her great gold production, yet the mineral capabilities of the county are by no means confined to her golden deposits, as many other minerals are found in more or less paying quantities.

The great copper lode which made Copperopolis famous runs through a large stretch of this county, and is the most important deposit of this metal on the coast.

Among the other mineral sources of wealth to be found in the county may also be mentioned iron, manganese, plumbago, load, zinc, tin, marble, slate and a variety of building stone. While there is some doubt as to the availability of a number of these minerals as actual wealth-producers as far as this locality is concerned, there can be no two opinions on the question of the stones mentioned becoming valuable properties in the future.

EDUCATION.

Though not so thickly settled as the valley counties, the excellent character of the inhabitants of Calaveras county is shown by the high standing of her schools, which are for the most part housed in very creditable buildings.

According to the report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for the census year of 1890, the county makes the following showing in statistics relating to school matters: Total number of census children, 2,409; number of children between the ages of five and seventeen years who attended school at any time during the year, 1,873, of which number four were Indians and four negroes; there were also twenty-six who attended only private schools during the year; the average daily attendance was 1,302; there were 1,468 who attended primary grades, and 456 in the grammar grade; number of grammar schools, twenty-one; number of primary schools, thirty-five. There were three new schoolhouses erected in 1889, and three more in 1890; total number of schoolhouses, fifty-three; school districts, forty-nine; average length of school per annum for all the schools in the county, 8.01 months; total number of teachers, fifty-five; average monthly wages paid male teachers, $73.42; average monthly wages paid female teachers, $57.86; assessed valuation of taxable property, $4,219,800; balance on hand at beginning of school year, $7,266.26; cash received from State apportionment, $23,194.39; cash received from county taxes, $12,172.60; cash received from miscellaneous sources, $112.29; total receipts from all sources, $42,745.54; expenditures for school year ending June 30, 1890, $34,805.87; balance on hand at close of school year, $7,939.67; valuation of school property, $43,595; number of volumes in school library, 6,790.

RAILROADS.

There are two lines of railroad which tap Calaveras county.

The old Stockton & Copperopolis, now a portion of the Southern Pacific system, extends from Stockton to Milton in this county, and from the latter point there is stage connection with Copperopolis, Altaville, Angel's, Vallecito, Douglas Flat, Murphy's and Big Trees; also to Sonora, in Tuolumne county. For years the travel over this line to the Big Trees has been very great.

The San Joaquin & Sierra Nevada railroad, a narrow-gauge line, connecting with the main Southern and Central Pacific systems at Lodi, terminates at Valley Springs, a central point in Calaveras county. From this point there is stage connection with San Andreas, Mokelumne Hill, and by change of stage with West Point, Cave City, Sheep Ranch, Altaville, Angel's, Vallicita, Douglas Flat, Murphy's and the Big Trees.

SAN ANDREAS.

THIS town, the county seat of Calaveras county, occupies rather a picturesque location between the north and south branches of the Calaveras river. It is located on the site of an old Catholic Spanish mission.

It has an altitude of about 1,200 feet above sea level, and the climate is as healthful and pleasant as could be desired. It is distant from Valley Springs, the nearest railroad station, with which, as with all other points of the country, it is connected by stage.

There is probably no other place in California where so much of the old genial and hospitable spirit of the early days of California remains as at San Andreas. Though her material prosperity has suffered somewhat, she has lost none of the old good fellowship, and contains one of the freest-hearted populations to be found in the State.

Mining was naturally the important industry in times past, but as the placers have been worked out there has been a great decline. Quartz mining has done something to mitigate the fall, however, and the Union gold mine, the most important in the vicinity, has expended large sums in development. It is the property of an English syndicate. There are a number of other quartz and gravel mines in this vicinity, and considerable pay work is done, but yet the mining industry is not what it was.

However, San Andreas offers splendid opportunities for the location of pleasant homes, and welcomes to her midst those in search of a place where they may dwell in comfort, peace and plenty, and enjoy the advantages of good society and a California climate. On all sides are beautiful verdure-clad hill slopes, ready to yield their agricultural wealth to those who first shall cultivate.

San Andreas has two churches,—a Catholic and a union Protestant,—two schools, telegraph, express office, good hotels,—notably the Metropolitan,—a public hall, and a courthouse and jail, erected in 1867, at a cost of $14,000.

The Calaveras County Board of Trade is an organization which has taken in hand the work of looking after the advancement of the county's interests in every legitimate way. Although but a comparatively new body, it has already done much in the way of making known the advantages and possibilities of the

county, and, while not neglecting the old and time-honored custom of mining, has brought to the front the capabilities of the soil in the direction of agriculture, horticulture and viticulture. An organization was effected on the 6th of July, 1889, with delegates present from all portions of the county: much interest and even enthusiasm was displayed. The first officers chosen were as follows: J. M. Lemon, J. C. Scribner and C. V. Gottschalk, vice-presidents; N. C. Hanscom, secretary; C. M. Whitlock, treasurer. The board of supervisors then in session took up the movement and appropriated $200 cash for immediate use, and $25 per month for one year, for the furtherance of the purposes of the organization. In 1891 the county of Calaveras was set off with San Joaquin into the second agricultural district by act of the Legislature, and the board of trade took charge of the county's exhibits at the district fair held at Stockton the same year. The good work of the body is kept up under its present efficient officers: Hon. C. V. Gottschalk, president; J. C. Scribner, vice-president; F. J. Solinsky, secretary; C. M. Whitlock, treasurer.

The Calaveras *Citizen*, the Democratic organ of Calaveras county, is a seven-column folio in form, published weekly at San Andreas, by Oscar Pfortner. It first appeared on the 6th of May, 1871, being at that time published by C. B. Woods, who was succeeded August 19, 1871, by Wm. O. Swenson. There were several other changes of proprietorship before the present publisher took control, the firm of Leavitt & Reddick, Beal & Leavitt, and C. R. Beal, conducting the paper for periods of various duration. The *Citizen* is a paper of strong opinions.

The Calaveras *Prospect* was first issued on the 10th of June, 1881, by C. W. Getchell and L. Salcido, and these gentlemen conducted it in partnership until 1886, since which time Mr. Getchell has been sole proprietor. The paper was at first a six-column folio, but was changed to a seven-column folio in 1890. The office is well equipped with material, having as part of its plant a cylinder press and steam engine. Work is turned out which would do credit to much larger places than San Andreas, the ingenuity of the proprietor overcoming any difficulty in the way of lack of material. Stereotyping is done in this office, and well done at that, when required.

C. W. Getchell, proprietor and founder of the Calaveras *Prospect*, was born at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 9, 1855. He came with his parents to California in 1855, and they settled at Drytown, Amador county, afterward removing to Forest Hill, Placer county, where they resided at the breaking out of the civil war and at the time of the great flood (1861–'62). In 1862 they went to Nevada, and in 1864 returned to California, coming over the old emigrant road across the mountains to Calaveras county. He learned the trade of printer in the office of the Calaveras *Citizen*, being with that paper when it was started. Afterward he worked on the Stockton *Herald* during the last days of that paper, and was foreman of the *Union Democrat*, of Sonora, Tuolumne county, for a year and a half, during the years 1869 and 1870.

Since starting the *Prospect*, Mr. Getchell

has devoted his time and energies to the advancement of the interests of the paper, of San Andreas and of Calaveras county.

The Foothill *Democrat* was started by William F. Leavitt, who afterward sold out to his brother, George Leavitt. The paper was subsequently merged into the *Citizen*.

The Calaveras *Advertiser*, another paper of the past, was originated by William O. Swenson in 1879, who conducted it in a very creditable manner for nearly two years, when it was absorbed by the Calaveras *Citizen*.

SOCIETIES.

Calaveras Lodge, No. 78, A. F. & A. M., San Andreas, was chartered May 4, 1855, with the following members: Garrett Garetsee, J. S. Abbott, Moses Thorpe, Nelson B. Jenks, Dr. Horace Austin, J. D. Davidson, E. L. Coldren, Timothy Cowles, Daniel Latimer, E. H. Everett, James Rea, P. M. Bright, D. D. Fox, O. Smith and E. R. Purple. The original officers were: Garrett Garetsee, W. M.; J. S. Abbott, S. W.; Moses Thorpe, J. W.; Nelson B. Jenks, Treas.; Dr. Horace Austin, Sec'y. The membership is now thirty-four, and the interest in this old-time lodge is kept up by the resident members. The officers installed January 7, 1892, are: William A. Wallace, W. M.; William Casey, S. W.; H. Bode, J. W.; D. Casinelli, Treas.; A. H. Coulter, See'y; F. J. Solinsky, S. D.; J. C. Early, J. D.; J. A. Nuland, Marshal; William Jenkins and J. Salcido, Stewards; T. A. Box, Tyler.

San Andreas Lodge, No. 50, I. O. O. F., was chartered January 4, 1856, the following names appearing on the charter: A. P. Humphreys, G. E. Sloss, E. W. Fitch, A. Friedberger and John Williamson. The organization has been steadily maintained, with good interest, and much efficient work has been accomplished. Officers were installed January 16, 1892, as follows: F. Z. Towle, N. G.; A. Jensen, V. G.; J. Mester; Sec'y; A. L. Wyllie, Treas.; J. Steel, W.; J. W. Roberts, Con.; W. H. Steffler, R. S. to N. G.; O. P. Pfortner, L. S. N. G.; L. Salcido, R. S. V. G.; H. Gutenger, L. S. V. G.; P. C. Morf, I. G.; J. Marquering, O. G.; J. F. Holland, R. S. S.; C. Steel, L. S. S.

Sequoia Lodge, No. 124, Rebekah Degree, was organized October 1, 1877, and is now in a prosperous condition, with a large membership.

Calaveras Parlor, No. 67, N. S. G. W., was chartered August 29, 1887, with the following members: F. J. Solinsky, Edward Casey, Charles R. Beal, E. L. McAdams, N. C. Hanscomb, John Raggio, J. H. McLaughlin, Louis Salcido, W. E. Johnston, J. A. Huland, J. A. Huberty, E. B. Matthews, George Leonard, Robert Leonard, Evan Morgan, William Casey, W. D. Wators, M. B. Kane, C. F. Masterson, Talton Hawes, Austin H. Hall, A. S. Cleary, John Cleary.

ANGEL'S.

THE EARLY DAYS.

THERE is hardly a place to-day existing in California about which hangs more of the glamour and romance of the early mining days than Angel's, or, as it was formerly universally known, "Angel's Camp," after its pioneer.

As early as 1849 it became one of the principal camps of the gold region, and its importance increased for several years thereafter.

It was the abiding place of Smiley, who inflicted upon Mark Twain the story of the "Jumping Frog" of Abner Dean, and through him upon the world; of the great humorist himself, and of Bret Harte; of James Gillis, Mark Twain's early partner; of "Charcoal Jim," who remained after all the rest were gone, a relic of the olden days.

Near Angel's was found the pliocene skull made famous by Bret Harte, which was reported to have been found at a depth of 150 feet, in a mine located two miles from town. It was found by James Matson, who presented it to Mr. Scribner, yet a resident of Angel's, and who in turn presented it, through Dr. Jones, to the State Geological Society. The poem, with its local hits, in view of the wide celebrity it attained for itself and the locality of its setting, will be found of interest, and is given herewith:

"SOCIETY UPON THE STANISLOW.

"I reside at Table Mountain, and my name is Truthful James;
I am not up to small deceit, or any sinful games;
And I'll tell in simple language what I know about the row
That broke up our society upon the Stanislow.

"But first I would remark that it is not a proper plan
For any scientific gent to whale his fellow-man,
And if a member don't agree with his peculiar whim,
To lay for that same member for to 'put a head' on him.

"Now, nothing could be finer or more beautiful to see
Than the first six months' proceedings of that same society,
Till Brown of Calaveras brought a lot of fossil bones
That he found within a tunnel near the tenement of Jones.

"Then Brown he read a paper, and he reconstructed there
From those same bones an animal that was extremely rare;
And Jones then asked the chair for a suspension of the rules
Till he could prove that those same bones were one of his lost mules.

"Then Brown he smiled a bitter smile and said he was at fault;
It seemed he had been trespassing on Jones' family vault.
He was a most sarcastic man, this quiet Mr. Brown,
And on several occasions he had cleaned out the town.

"Now, I hold it is not decent for a scientific gent
To say another is an ass—at least, to all intent;
Nor should the individual who happens to be meant
Reply by heaving rocks at him to any great extent.

"Then Abner Dean, of Angel's, raised a point of order, when
A chunk of old red sandstone took him in the abdomen,
And he smiled a kind of sickly smile, and curl'd up on the floor,
And the subsequent proceedings interested him no more.

"For, in less time than I write it, every member did engage
On a warfare with the remnants of a palaeozoic age;
And the way they heaved those fossils in their anger was a sin,
Till the skull of an old mammoth caved the head of Thompson in."

The cleverness of those two bright, intellectual lights, Mark Twain and Bret Harte, was fully recognized by their associates, though the glamour lent by distance was wanting; but it must be remembered that the men who went to make up the mining camp were of an unusually intelligent class, capable of appreciating even a Mark Twain or a Bret Harte, and entertaining them in turn as well.

James G. Fair has perhaps made the greatest success in the line of finance of all the fortunate ones who have been personally identified with Angel's, and it was here he made his first strike in the Utica mine, which he sold for $37,000, and afterward went to Virginia City, Nevada, where he piled up millions in the Comstocks.

PROSPERITY AND DECLINE.

In 1853 the growth of the mining industry at Angel's had been so rapid that the population reached about 3,500. Tents for shelter of the inhabitants were thick among the oak trees and chaparral that covered the hillsides.

While money was not a drug in the market, it was very plentiful, and want was unknown. Business was of course rushing under these circumstances, and there was prosperity on all sides.

In 1855 fire consumed almost the entire town, causing a large loss and much discomfort.

In 1856 another conflagration swept almost the entire town from the face of the earth.

The year 1856 also witnessed the commencement of the wane of placer mining, and with it a lowering of Angel's star. Quartz development, which is now bringing the town once more to the front, began on a scale worthy of note the same year, though the history of this interest must be dated back to an earlier day.

QUARTZ AND POCKET MINING.

The first discovery of quartz ledges in the vicinity of Angel's took place in 1852, but nothing in the way of development was done until the following year, when Charles Carson worked some pockets in the quartz, and the locality became known as Carson's. He worked only the surface, and no deep work was done at that early day.

The ground afterward passed into the ownership of Colonel McLean, a Tennessean and a lawyer by profession, to whom it proved

a honanza, he taking out $80,000 as the result of a single blast, from a deposit vein.

William Irvine later figured for about two years as worker of this mine, and he is said to have made a large sum of money from it, though the details of his success were not made generally known.

The property is not now being worked, as it is in litigation. The principal owner is James G. Fair, of San Franciseo.

In 1856, a determined attempt to make quartz mining successful was made by William Maltman, Dr. Hill and Dr. Boone, bnt as they had no practical knowledge of the business they did not succeed, though they put up a small mill and did mueh other work.

When James G. Fair took hold of the mine, he did considerable work, though it was not profitable to him. He sold out, however, for a goodly sum, and thus made his work a good investment.

The Utica mine never became a success until taken in hand by C. D. Lane for Hayward & Hobart. The machinery is of the highest class, and the hoisting works the highest in the State of California. This mine is very successful, and while the amount of output is not given to the public, the bullion shipments are known to be heavy. Improvements are continually being made in the machinery and methods of this great plant, and it justly ranks as one of the most important mining properties in the State.

In 1854, the first work was done on, or rather over, the Marshall mine. Two brothers named Winter worked over the surface, which yielded about $10,000. They then built fine horse arastras, and afterward worked the mine with an open cut for about eight years, and are credited with having made over $200,000. They sold out to W. H. Boone, of San Francisco, whose two years' experience there ended in failure, thus illustrating the ups and downs of mining, even in the history of the same mine.

It afterward passed into the ownership of Captain Cushing, who built a twenty-stamp mill, but after working it a short time he was taken down with sickness and died. It is now the property of his brother in Canada, and is not working at this writing.

The Gold Cliff mine was discovered in 1879, by Messrs. Dolan and Coggswell, while working off the surface. They made about $7,000 or $8,000 out of it, and sold to Captain Drake, who worked it about four years, with very little success. It was next owned by Charles Nickerson. It remained idle for some time until bonded by Messrs. W. E. Shepman, C. D. Lane, and Woodson Garrard, who are now working it successfully.

The Matson mine, adjoining the Gold Cliff on the south, is being worked by Thomas M. Lane, is paying, and promises to become one of the leading mines of this section.

The Brunner mine, a mile and-a-half south, is of the same tale formation as the Gold Cliff, and has a large field with good prospects, though the ore is low grade.

The Angel's Quartz Mining Company, is one of the principal operators in this district. The entire plant is equipped in the most ap-

proved manner, the machinery being among the best in use in the State, while the timbering used in the various levels is on a par with that of the best shafts on the Comstock.

The Melones Mining Company own the claim adjoining the Carson mine, proviously mentioned. They own the Coronation Reduction Works at Angel's, as well.

James G. Fair owns the Crystal mine, which, while supposed to be rich, has not been worked for years.

The Chlorination Works of Hayward & Hobart, at Angel's, are the largest in the State, and treat not only all the sulphurets produced by this firm, but also the greator portion of those from this entire section of the State.

OTHER INTERESTS.

Angel's is well equipped with business houses handling all the various lines of merchandiso required by the inhabitants of a prosperous town.

There are also good hotels, schools, churches, Masonic and Odd Fellows' halls, as well as prosperous lodges of these and other orders, and in fact the place wears an air of enterprise and progress quite in contrast to that of the times before quartz miuing reached its present importance.

There are those who predict that Angel's is destined to become a second Virginia City; but be that as it may, she ranks to-day among the most prosperous mining towns of California.

THE MOUNTAIN ECHO.

The *Mountain Echo* was started at Angel's on the 5th of May, 1879, by Myron Reed, who has ever since been identified with its fortunes. He took in L. J. Hutchinson, a practical printer, as partner, in 1885, and they have since been associated in the publication of the paper. The office occupies its own building on a lot overlooking the town, and a private telephone affords a ready means of communication with the business center. The paper was for a time published as an eight-column folio, but is now a seven-column folio. A three-horse-power gasoline engine, and Taylor cylinder press figure as items in the equipment.

OTHER TOWNS.

ALTAVILLE.

This place is but a mile from Angel's, being on the road between that town and San Andreas, and is generally spoken of as a part or suburb of Angels'. It is a pretty, enterprising suburb, however, and contains some important establishments.

The Demorest Foundry does a large amount of foundry and machine work for the miners over a large region of country, and is one of the prominent enterprises of this section. It was established in 1857.

There is also a brewery at Altaville, which disposes of its product throughout the county.

Mr. B. R. Prince, of Altaville, one of the pioneers of the county, has demonstrated that silk culture can be successfully carried on here, and the silks of his production have taken the first premiums at every fair where exhibited.

MURPHY'S.

This is one of the old towns that in the

early days was one of the celebrated mining camps, and many citizens of all portions of the State have moved there for greater or less periods. The gold diggings here were discovered by John Murphy in 1848. He worked a number of Indians at mining, and is credited with fabulous earnings during 1848 and 1849.

The town is beautifully situated in a large flat, and is visited by most of the sight-seers who come to view the big trees and other curiosities of the neighborhood. The altitude above sea level of Murphy's is 2,300 feet, and the air is delightful and the climate healthful.

Mining and lumbering are the important industries of the locality, though the soil and climate is excellent for fruit and vine culture, which is yet in its infancy here.

In this district are the Oro Plata Company's mines, the Red Wing, the Pay Rock and White Wing, all in limestone formation, the motive powers being water and steam. The Calaveras Company's mines were extensively worked some years ago, and there was a twenty-stamp mill on the property, now burned, and the works are idle. The Cunliff and Driver mine, near by, has been worked successfully by shafts and tunnels for several years. A mile west of town are a number of mines worked by tunnels for the most part. The Beatrice has two tunnels running into the lode. In close proximity are the Comet, C. K., Buckhorn, Treasure, and a number of others more or less worked. On the outskirts of the town are the Picty Hill group, in which the veins are well developed.

There are two lumber mills within a distance of twelve miles in the mountains, owned respectively by John Manuel and the McKay brothers, which have a capacity for cutting 3,000,000 feet in the season of six months. The lumber interest is capable of great expansion in this locality, and the advent of a railroad would cause a wonderful development. The timber for miles beyond the big trees is of dense growth and of the best quality. On the south and east bank of the Stanislaus it is even better. The north fork of the Stanislaus courses through one tract, and Indian creek another. The sugar-pine timber here found is of the finest quality, and the trees attain great size.

The natural caves and natural bridges in the vicinity of Murphy's, mentioned elsewhere, are among the principal attractions of the mountain region.

Ophir Lodge, No. 33, F. & A. M., at Murphy's, is one of the old-time lodges of the State, having been organized in the early mining days.

There was also a chapter lodge here, Calaveras Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., organized under dispensation granted September 18, 1855, and chartered May 3, 1856. The original members were: Alexander H. Putney, Ira Taylor, Milton Mangpin, Lewis Weber, Nathaniel W. Greene, William H. Barnes, C. K. Gillespie, Charles Johnson, W. C. Crespin, J. W. Griswold, Hugh G. Platt and A. Tibley. This chapter was removed to Copperopolis in 1865, about

two years later to Snelling and finally to Merced in 1874.

The town is supplied with water by the Union Water Company, has good school and other advantages, and, all in all, has a number of attractive features.

MOKELUMNE HILL.

One of the most attractive and the best watered town in the county, is Mokelumne Hill, which occupies a favorable location at an elevation of 1,350 feet above sea level.

This was one of the first gold mining camps in the Sierra Novada gold fields, Rich Gulch, at this place, having been discovered by some soldiers of Stevonson's regiment in the fall of 1848, and in times past it was one of the most important places in the State, with a busy, rich and prosperous population of some 5,000 souls. Scattered all over California and indeed as far away as the Atlantic coast, are scores of men who obtained their first start at Mokelumno Hill, for the placers here were of the richest, and held out for years.

When this town was the county seat of Calaveras county, its bar was one of the most brilliant on the coast, and many of the brightest minds of California congregated here, but the old glory of Mokelumne Hill has departed and now it is a place of but 600 or 700 inhabitants. Instead, however, of the rushing mining camp of former days, is a beautiful little city of residences surrounded by fruits and flowers, while on the hills about the place are flourishing orchards and vineyards. Oranges are grown in many of the yards and do finely; a branch containing a cluster of forty oranges exhibited in 1886, at the State Citrus Fair, Sacramento, carried off the first prize as the best cluster.

There are a number of large gravel mines about the town, and quartz mining is also receiving attention, as it is known that there are yet millions in gold remaining in the hills.

The Mokelumne Hill *Chronicle* is the oldest newspaper in the State, having been in continuous existence since 1851. While its field is now necessarily limited on account of the comparatively small population which it can profitably reach, it has a splendid history, and has been one of the most influential journals in the State.

One of the scraps of the early gold mining history of California is to the effect that a Frenchman fishing for frogs for his breakfast in a prospect hole at Mokelumne Hill one day in November, 1848, discovered a speck of gold, and dug out with his pocket knife a nugget which he sold for $2,150.

MILTON.

This town is the terminus of the Stockton & Copperopolis branch of the Southern Pacific system, and is twenty-eight miles from Stockton, which lies at the other end of the road, and where rail connection is had with all points. There is stage connection from here with the principal points of Tuolumne and Calaveras counties.

Good basalt rock for paving and an excellent quality of slate are found in the neighborhood, and a great deal of good farming land lies to the eastward.

COPPEROPOLIS.

This is the center of the only district in

California where copper mining has been carried on to a large extent.

The lode was located July 4, 1861, by W. K. Reed, and the first house erected at the mine (which afterward became known as the Union Keystone), in September, 1861, was the starting point of the growth of Copperopolis. The center of the lode appears to be there, and in 1864, the principal vein in the Union developed to a width of forty feet of solid sulphuret ore of fifteen to twenty per cent. purity, at a depth of 250 feet, thus giving the mine a world-wide celebrity, so that in 1865 it was valued at $2,000,000, and shares sold on that basis. It is now the property of an English syndicate. There are also a number of other copper mines in the vicinity.

The population of the town is about 300, and it has a good hotel, school, church and other advantages.

SHEEP RANCH.

This place is noted as being the location of the famous Sheep Ranch mine, which has been for years one of the steadiest and heaviest producers in the gold fields. There was formerly another mine in active operation—the Chavanne—but it is now idle, except that it is kept in thorough repair to guard against accident in the Sheep Ranch mine, which is claimed to be the safest for its employés in the State. It is owned by J. B. Haggin & Co., and superintended by William H. Cleary, who also has an interest in the property.

The mine employs from eighty to 100 men, and the town has a population of about 400. There are two schools and two churches —a Catholic and a Protestant.

WEST POINT.

This place has an elevation of about 2,700 feet above sea level, and occupies a pleasant location in the timber belt, about fourteen miles northeast of Mokelumne Hill.

The public buildings are a fine, large school building, one of the best in the county, a neat church edifice, a commodious town hall, and an Odd Fellows hall.

The Russell Mining Company, an important mining concern, own several mines in the vicinity, the principal of which is the Lockwood, employing a large number of men.

The Star of the West Mining Company's mine, those of Row & Jenkins, the Water Lily, Blazing Star, and others owned by Moore & Company, the Scorpion, the Wide West, the Woodhouse, the Josephine, the Anna, those of the Hurley Mining Company, and others, are important properties and give employment to a large number of men.

The country about is well adapted to agricultural and horticultural pursuits and to stock-raising.

GLENCOE AND JESUS MARIA,

two small villages situated between Mokelumne Hill and West Point, are the sites of valuable mines. Grape-growing is extensively carried on, and some attention is given to fruits, for which the conditions are favorable.

RAILROAD FLAT.

This place is located in a fertile valley between the two last named towns and West Point. There are several large quartz mines

and a lumber mill in the vicinity. Stock-raising and farming are prominent industries of this locality. Very fine apples, pears and plums are also grown.

CAMPO SECO.

This town was once the center of a large mining population, but is now chiefly noted for its fine fruits. The oldest orange tree in northern California, which has seen a third of a century of growth, is to be found here, and is almost a foot in diameter. The citrus fruits all do well here.

There are two copper mines near town, and the San Francisco Copper Company's works are quite extensive.

The Pennsylvania Chemical works are splendidly equipped, having an improved smelter, and all the best facilities for mining and reducing ores. This is the only mine in California which produces merchantable copper ready for use, and furnished the copper used in the construction of the United States cruisers San Francisco and Charleston.

CAMANCHE

Is located on the Mokelumne river, and in its vicinity lies some of the most fertile garden land to be found anywhere. Camanche was formerly a well-known mining town, but that industry has seen its day hereabouts.

ROBINSON'S FERRY.

Lying along the Stanislaus river, a short distance from Angel's, is this small town, which has figured extensively in mining history. In the Carson mine near by was found, in November, 1851, the largest nugget of gold ever discovered in the United States, weighing 195 pounds, and valued at $43,500. Commencing at the river, near the town, is a succession of mines, owned by an English syndicate, and known to be very rich.

BURSON AND WALLACE.

These towns are on the line of the narrow-gauge railroad and are surrounded by an excellent agricultural country, which is also receiving much attention in the department of fruit culture, which is destined to become quite an industry in this locality.

VALLEY SPRING.

This is the youngest town in the county, and was started in 1885, on the completion of the San Joaquin & Sierra Nevada narrow-gauge railroad, of which it is the terminus. It is the distributing point for a large territory, and the center of a good agricultural and mining region, and is a live, prosperous town. It has the usual public, private and business buildings, shops, etc., to be found in progressive towns of its size.

JENNY LIND.

This was once one of the prominent mining towns, but that industry is now a thing of the past here.

The town is located upon the banks of the Calaveras river, and is about five miles from Milton.

Agriculture and fruit growing are now the principal interests of the community. Olives especially thrive well here, and some extensive orchards have been planted to them hereabouts, notably those by H. H. Moore, of Stockton, and Matthew Gregory. Deciduous fruits also do splendidly here.

TUOLUMNE COUNTY.

BOUNDARIES AND AREA.

TUOLUMNE county is quite irregular in shape. It is bounded on the northwest by Calaveras county, on the north by Alpine, on the east by Mono, on the south by Mariposa, and on the southwest by Stanislaus. Its area is 1,953 square miles, or about 1,250,000 acres.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

The name Tuolumne, as applied to the county, was taken from the river of the same name, which is the principal water-course of the county. It is of Indian origin.

TOPOGRAPHY.

Stretching as it does from the summit of the Sierra Nevadas down into the valley of the San Joaquin, it presents a broken and a varied topography. On its eastern confines, Mount Dana rises to an altitude of 13,227 feet, while its neighbor, Castle Peak, is 14,000 feet above sea level. Here there is constant snow, and the cold of winter is of almost Arctic intensity. Again, in the little valleys, places included in the same panorama, there is to be found a climatic condition hardly to be excelled, the thermometer seldom showing beyond the confines of twenty and seventy degrees Fahrenheit. Table Mountain, on the northwestern border of the county, is another vast landmark, and presents a remarkable formation geologically.

WATER COURSES.

The water-supply of the county is practically unlimited, the snows of the Sierras constantly seeking the valleys through the channels of the county. The Tuolumne river, with its north, middle and south forks, carries the bulk of the water, but has a by no means insignificant rival in the Stanislaus, which forms the greater portion of the dividing line between this county and Calaveras, as well as the south fork of the Stanislaus. Besides these streams, there are, among others, Knight's creek, Dry creek, Sullivan's creek, Deep creek, Curtis' creek, Turnback creek, Eagle creek, Rose creek, Woods' creek and Moccasin creek.

WATER-SHED AND THE GLACIERS.

The water-shed which supplies these streams is so vast as to merit special mention, and some remarks of Israel C. Russell, taken from an article on glaciers in the report of the Director of the United States Geological Survey for 1884, gives an exceedingly interesting insight into some of its features:

"Our combined observations have shown that nine glaciers now exist within the southern rim of the Mono lake drainage basin, while a somewhat larger number are to be found among the mountains, of which McClure, Lyell and Ritter are the dominant peaks, and from which flow the Tuolumne, Merced and San Joaquin rivers.

"The glaciers of the high Sierra are located between latitudes thirty-six and one-half degrees and thirty-eight degrees, and have an approximate elevation of 11,500 feet above the sea. The lowest seen was on the northern side of Mount Ritter, and terminates in a lakelet that is about 2,000 feet below the mountain-top, or approximately 11,000 feet above the sea.

"As seen from Mono Lake, the most conspicuous point along the mountain crest is Mount Dana, which rises 6,500 feet above the lake, and has an elevation of 13,227 feet above the sea.

"In traveling from Mount Dana to Mount Lyell one finds it most convenient to pass down Dana creek to its confluence with the Tuolumne, and then ascend the deep, broad-bottom cañon of the latter stream, which leads directly to the Lyell glacier, at the foot of which the river has its birth.

"The majestic mountain as seen from this portion of the valley (near the head of Tuolumne cañon) is far more grand and beautiful than any illustration in black and white can suggest. In the soft gray light of morning it has all the solemn grandeur of the Bernese Oberland, and at sunset, when flushed with the rosy light of the after-glow, this shrine of the high Sierra rivals the splendor of Mount Rosa. To the right of Mount Lyell rises Mount McClure, which is scarcely less grand than its companion. The former attains the height of 13,217 feet above the sea, and the latter is 150 feet less in elevation.

"Our examination of the Lyell glacier began one August morning before sunrise, when the vast amphitheatre in which the ice is cradled was hushed in the profound stillness peculiar to mountain tops. As the sun rose above the granite spires to the eastward and flushed the snow-fields with a ruddy light, little rills started here and there on the glacier, gradually gathering strength as the sun's warmth increased. By noon brooks of admirable size were rushing down channels of ice, sometimes plunging into crevasses and becoming lost to view. At midday the murmur of water was heard everywhere over the glacier; but as the chill of evening came on the music of the streams gradually ceased, and by sunset the stillness of death again reigned over the frozen regions.

"The broad-bottomed valley leading northward from Mount Lyell was formerly occupied by the great Tuolumne glacier. This received an important tributary from the region

wostward of Mount Dana, the path of which is deeply ongraved in the topography of the country. The glacier formed by the union of these two ice streams flowed down the Tuolumne eañon for thirty or forty miles, with a depth of betwcen 2,000 and 3,000 feet, and it is believed to have oecupied the Heteh-Hetehy valloy. Their sourees abont Mount Lyell and Mount Ritter descended the Merced and San Joaquin valloys, whieh, like the Tuolumne, were considerably modified by ico erosion."

It is from such a sourec that Tuolumne county is watered and endowed with a supply equal to the roquirement of tho entiro State, if the means for its proper storage and distribution were adoptod.

LAROE OANAL PROJECT.

Much attention has been given the subjoct of utilizing this vast water accumulation for tho supply of San Francisco and other cities lying along tho intermediate route, and years ago the Tuolumne and San Franciseo Water Company was organized for this purpose in view. While the ends of this project have nevor bcen carried out, yet enough was done to domonstrate the feasibility of the schome whon the time shall come to put it iu praetice.

Surveys and maps were made by J. P. Dart, of Sonora, and it was shown that from the Tuolumne river alone, near Armstrong's bridge, 25,000 inches of water could be taken. The company also took up Lako Eleanor, with a surface of six square miles and a depth of 200 feet; Lako Vernon, four square miles of surface; Laurel Lake, three and a half squarc miles; Spotted Fawn lake, five square miles; Lake Ellen, two and a half square miles; and Granite lake, four square miles. Besides supplying the cities referred to, it was the intention of the company to furnish water for the irrigation of the lands en route.

TUOLUMNE COUNTY WATER COMPANY.

The Tuolumne County Wator Company, an important factor in supplying a large portion of the county with water, was incorporated September 4, 1852. The water was originally taken from Five-Mile creek, through a flume some six or seven miles in length, and was first used to float stove-wood and lumber. A steam sawmill, now a thing of the past, was also built by the company, the boilers being obtained from the old steamer North Star, for whieh purpose the entire steamer had to be purchased. Early in 1853 the sale of water began, and a canal was dug to conneet with Five-Mile creek; afterward the route of the canal was changed to the top of tho hill, where it now runs. The main canal runs from the south fork of the Stanislaus river, from a point about eighteen miles above the Columbia, extending to that town and vicinity. This was bought from the Columbia and Stanislaus River Wator Company for $150,000 in 1860. The size of the canal, as originally constructed, is seven feet wide on the bottom, thirteen feet on top, and three feot deep, with an average grade of sixteen feet to the mile; the main flume at the hoad is seven and a half feet wide and two fect deep. There are threo timber dams, all on the south fork of the Stanislaus river, tho lowest being at Strawberry Flat, about

fourteen miles, via the river from the head of the ditch. About a mile above is the Upper Strawberry, or second reservoir, and about ten miles above the lower reservoir is the Big Dam. The three reservoirs hold over two months' supply.

About six miles from the head of the main canal is a lateral ditch with a capacity of 500 inches and nine miles long, which supplies the Consolidated Eureka mine at Summersville; from this branch another ditch, beginning about a mile below Confidence, conveys the water a distance of between three and four miles to Soulsbyville, and supplies all the section thereabout. A branch ditch from the end of the main canal runs to Bald mountain, with a carrying capacity of 300 inches.

From Columbia a branch takes up the second head-water from that district, carrying it to Jamestown, Montezuma and surrounding country. The same is done at Soulsbyville, where a branch takes the second head-water from the mills, runs to the lower Phœnix reservoir, and connects with the ditch that supplies Sonora. From Dead Horse mine the second head-water is carried in a branch extending toward Algerine.

One thing in connection with the canal that attracted much attention at the time of its construction was the hanging of a part of the flume by iron girders from the face of Dome Rock.

In 1876 the company bought out the Phœnix Water Company, the system consisting of the hydraulic ditch and the old street ditch running from the north fork of the Tuolumne river and connecting with the Phœnix reservoir.

From the Phœnix reservoir a ditch with a capacity of 900 inches runs to Sonora and vicinity.

There is one large tunnel on the line, which runs from the south fork to the main Stanislaus river. It is considerably over a mile in length, and its cost was about a quarter of a million of dollars.

PLACES OF INTEREST.—THE BIG TREES, ETC.

Tuolumne county affords many places of interest to the tourist and sight-seer.

There are two groves of the Sequoia gigantea in the county, the larger lying along the Stanislaus river, on the northwestern border. This grove contains more trees, which are not excelled for height and size, than any other. The other grove is near the southern border of the county. The celebrated "Dead Giant" is the tree through which the stage passes, a place being cut out which is ten feet wide and twelve feet in height. This tree is now little more than an immense stump, but was at one time a monster of the forest.

The Hetch-Hetchy valley has its friends, who consider it the peer of Yo Semite for the grandeur and beauty of its scenery, and it certainly ranks next to it among the scenic wonders of the Pacific coast. The main branch of the Tuolumne river flows through the valley. On account of its comparative inaccessibility, Hetch-Hetchy valley has not yet received the attention which is its due. The old toll road from Sonora to Bodie is used by visitors to this valley, as well as

those to Lake Eleanor. During the palmy days of Bodie this road was one of the most traveled in the State, and it is now largely utilized by camping and hunting parties. There are many scenes of interest to repay a trip over it.

Peppermint Falls, on Table mountain, are surrounded by scenery of the loveliest description, but this place is now not much patronized by pleasure-seekers, though once quite popular.

There are many other places in the county which afford pleasure to the seeker after the beautiful in nature, as well as to those who desire rest and recreation.

A HISTORIC COUNTY.

No county in California has had a more interesting history than Tuolumne. In the days when mining was the one great industry, there were but few of the fortune-seekers who did not, for a time at least, wield the pick and shovel in one or more of her camps.

Many of the men of the early days still linger about the scenes of their former successes and disappointments, and of those yet surviving there are many more to be found in other parts of the State and in distant States, pursuing other occupations or retired from active labors.

There was much that was romantic about the experiences of these men, and yet, conditions being much the same among them, there was a deal of sameness in their daily routine. The one thing that stood out pre-eminently was the plenitude of money, or its equivalent, gold dust, there being no such thing as necessity of fear for the morrow. A man could spend his all one day, if he chose, feeling confident of being able to replenish his funds the next day, or at least of securing the necessaries of life without any sacrifice of dignity or standing.

Free-heartedness and hospitality were the rule, and the seeker of one time might be the giver of another.

There was a large proportion of educated men among those early miners, and nearly all were at least of a highly intelligent class, energetic and fearless.

To give in detail all the happenings of interest in those early times would be an endless task, and this will not be attempted here. Some things are essential, and receive separate treatment, but for individual experiences reference must be had largely to the biographies elsewhere in this volume.

TROUBLOUS TIMES.

The foreign miners' tax, imposed by act of the Legislature on all engaged in mining not American citizens, caused considerable trouble in the camps about Sonora during the summer of 1850. Resistance to the demands of the tax collectors was the cause of force being brought to bear, and the Mexican and Chilean miners, professing to feel that they were persecuted, began leaving by scores and hundreds, with their families and all their belongings.

Some of these organized into bands of highwaymen, and it was not long until murders and robberies became of almost daily occurrence. This state of affairs resulted in a feeling of dread and terror prevailing

throughout the community, and on the evening of the 3d of July, 1850, a public meeting of citizens was held at Sonora to take action in the case. At this meeting it was resolved that a committee of three be appointed to make application to the proper authorities for a company of United States dragoons to be stationed at Sonora; that a company of twenty-five men picked from the meeting be organized to hunt down the robbers and murderers; and that J. B. Litton, Captain of the proposed company, should raise it at once and report to the Court of Sessions.

On the 10th of July following, three Indians and a Mexican named Pablo Martinez were brought into town in custody of George Hudson, Thomas Shirley, Thomas Hill and J. B. Owen, charged with the killing of two Americans at Green Flat Digging, and with attempting to burn their bodies to do away with the evidence of their crime. The prisoners claimed that they had found the dead bodies in a state of decomposition, and in accordance with a custom of their race they were cremating the bodies for sanitary reasons.

The prisoners were arraigned before Justice of the Peace Barry, and when the evidence had been taken, while some were convinced of the innocence of the prisoners, the majority seemed to be in favor of making an example of them.

By this time there was great excitement in town, and the attention of every one was centered upon the proceedings in the case. It was proposed and insisted that a jury should be impaneled for immediate trial, and while the court was in retirement for consultation the crowd took matters into its own hands, and elected Peter Mehen judge for the occasion. A rope was placed around the neck of each of the prisoners, and they were taken to a hill on the edge of town, and the prisoners were tried before an improvised jury in the presence of several hundred men, found guilty, and sentenced to be hung, which verdict was about to be put into effect. At this juncture, Judges Tuttle, Marvin and Radcliff with others appeared upon the scene and attempted to stop proceedings, Judge Tuttle making a powerful address in behalf of law and order. This only seemed to aggravate the crowd for a time, but William Ford took a hand on the same side and it was not long before better judgment came to the assemblage, and the lives of the prisoners were saved for the time.

The following week the county and district courts met for the first time in Sonora, and on Monday of that week a body of eighty men carrying guns and under military organization came into town, while some 300 miners all armed with revolvers, knives, etc., came in at an early hour, all being from the neighborhood where the two dead Americans were found. During the morning Captain Hinell, of the company, called upon Judge Creanor and intimated that they would expect the prisoners to be tried that day. The Judge warned him against any interference by his men, saying that the men would be tried as soon as their cases could be reached properly.

Meantime a rumor reached town that a number of suspicious persons in a Mexican camp some three or four miles distant were intent on rescuing the prisoners, and Sheriff Work and twenty armed deputies went out and brought in 110 of them.

During Monday night, according to the Sonora *Herald*, from whose files this account is gleaned, hundreds of armed men entered the town, so that on Tuesday morning there were probably 2,000 riflemen in the streets.

The trial of the Mexican and three Indians came on about three o'clock in the afternoon, but about this time a circumstance took place that brought confusion upon the proceedings. The prisoners had just pleaded "not guilty," when one of the guards, who was standing on a bench, dropped his double-barreled gun, the hammers of which struck against a box, and both barrels were discharged. Revolvers were at once drawn on all sides, and tumult reigned. One man hastening to get out struck his gun against a board, and it also went off. This added to the confusion, and there was a terrible struggle to get out, doors and windows both being utilized as means of egress. A cry of alarm was set up and the street was crowded at once.

Three Mexicans in the crowd were deliberately fired at by some men, who gave as a reason, when asked, that they "fired promiscuously among the Mexicans on general principles," supposing that they were trying to rescue the prisoners.

Judge Booker addressed the multitude eloquently and ably, and quiet soon reigned, though it was feared that there might be trouble during the night on account of some becoming intoxicated.

This, however, did not occur.

The 110 Mexicans who had been brought in and confined in a corral near town under a strong guard were examined by Justices Radcliff and Barry, found not guilty of any crime, and discharged. The four original prisoners, after a full trial, were, also declared not guilty, no evidence being produced against them. The prosecution was conducted by Messrs. Booker and Van Buren, and the defense by Messrs. Perloy and Moore.

After this the armed men left town, and things once more assumed their normal aspect.

The respite was short-lived, however, as within a day accounts of fresh murders were received, and in respouse to a call a meeting of citizens was held, which was addressed by prominent men with a view to adopting measures to put down crime and outlawry.

For the purpose of calling a grand mass-meeting to be held in Sonora on Sunday, July 21, a committee of seven was chosen, as follows: Judge Tuttle and Joshua Holden, Sonora; J. W. Van Benschoten, Woods; D. S. Dikoman, Jacksonville; —— Reynolds, Sullivan's diggings; W. C. Wade, Mormon Gulch; and Captain Stewart, McLane's Ferry.

At the close of the meeting, it was rumored that there were 400 Mexicans encamped three miles from town armed and in readiness to attack the town. Accordingly a posse of

fifty armed men was organized to patrol the town that night.

On the following Sunday a large meeting was held in Sonora, and resolutions were adopted calling for the expulsion of all foreigners except law-abiding people, and that these should be provided with permits to stay; also that all foreigners should be compelled to turn over their fire-arms and weapons forthwith, etc., etc., all in a similar vein. A committee was also appointed to look to the carrying out of the spirit of the resolutions.

After their adoption loud calls were made for a speech from Mr. Van Buren. In response he delivered an even-tempered address denouncing the proposed policy, and his speech had much weight with the meeting.

This proved to be the last public meeting of any consequence on this subject, and matters eventually righted themselves in the natural order of affairs.

REMINISCENCE OF THE EARLY DAYS.

The following extracts are from a reminiscence of early days, published in 1881, and written by N. W. Wells, one of the early residents of Tuolumne City, and a gentleman long identified with Stanislaus county.

"My first trip to the mines, in 1849, I made on foot, stopping at Woods' creek to try my luck in the placer diggings. After washing out several pans with the bare result of the color, I threw down the pan and concluded I was no miner, and started for Sonora, which was then the liveliest mining camp in the Southern mines, being in the center of the richest mineral district in the State. Gambling was indulged in freely, the tables being loaded down with gold-dust and surrounded by miners anxious to buck at monte. After taking a survey of the diggings, I concluded the future prospects were good, and returned to my business in Stockton, which I thought satisfied me better than mining, as the demand for goods of all descriptions was good in the mines and at fabulous prices. For instance, flour, per pound, $1.25; pork, the same, and other articles in proportion, owing more to the bad state of the roads than a general scarcity, it being a very severe winter, the country saturated and inundated as early as the month of November.

"Seeing there was an outlet to the mines besides packing on mules and burros from Stockton, I invested in some small boats, packed in my provisions, and started up the the San Joaquin and Tuolumne rivers to a point now known as Tuolumne City, having sent the pack train to that place by land, in charge of a man known to many old citizens as "Texas Jack," who was to forward the goods to Chinese camp, he being the captain of a band of Mexicans, who were the only good packers we had at that time, their camp being in a willow thicket on the Stanislaus river, close to the present residence of Thomas Richardson. In cultivating the soil in after years, numerous skeletons were unearthed, and if the dead could speak, no doubt tales of horror would be told.

"I well remember of camping within a short distance of a piratical den in company with a Chileno merchant of Sonora. Being

very tired, having footed it all that day, we spread our blankets for a night's repose, twilight having passed away, but not daring to make a fire for fear of attracting the attention of the captain or his party, as between us we had $10,000 in gold dust. Had this been known, the chances are I would not be writing this anecdote; and I must say I was a little nervous when, during the dead hours of night, a clatter of horses' feet, and the conversation in Spanish of their riders coming in from a piratical tour, awoke me from my slumber.

"I must mention that this was only one of several notorious places on that trail to Sonora. Old Bartlett's was another place on the bank of the Stanislaus between Texas Jack's camp and Sonora, surrounded with the same class of people with the exception of old man Bartlett. However, we were compelled to stop at such places as the country afforded, and get our regular *carne seco* and *frijoles*.

"In staying at this same place about a year ago, I was struck with the changes time had made. Instead of the dried beef and beans I was ushered into a well-kept house by my old friend George Lancaster and his lady, the dining-room being supplied with all the delicacies the market afforded. Curiosity led me to look for the spot where the old adobe stood, which was under an old oak tree. The tree being gone, I located the stump of the old veteran, when I was joined by Mr. Lancaster. When I told him of the early locaters there, he said: 'I want to tell you something. Do you see that spot there?' pointing to a small plat of over 100 feet perpendicularly below us. 'There,' he said, 'in preparing the soil for an orchard, I unearthed thirteen human skeletons, which were supposed to be Indian remains at first, but in looking at the well-preserved teeth, some of them being skillfully filled with gold, we came to the conclusion that they were the remains of no ordinary race of people, but the victims of the same class of pirates before spoken of. The remains of a dog were also found with a brass collar on. The poor, faithful animal, no doubt, was destroyed for fear he would be a clue to the whereabouts of his poor master.'

* * * * * *

"But to return to Texas Jack and the pack-train: He was faithful to his trust for several trips, but finally failing to put in an appearance at Tuolumne City, I mounted a mustang and went in search of the piratical captain. When I got as far as American Flat, this side of the mountain pass, I learned from some Americans and an old Mexican that Texas Jack had vamosed. Getting into a game of monte there, he first put up the cargo of provisions, and being loser he then staked the pack-train, which he lost also, and then departed for parts unknown, and I returned, the loser but much wiser.

* * * * * *

"I continued to live at Tuolumne City, occasionally going to Sonora, it being the county seat and I having numerous warm friends there, some of whom I must mention: Dr. Adams, former owner of Adamsville, once the county seat; we tried quartz mining together on Bald mountain, without success. George

Evans, now harbor commissioner, then county clerk, had the best-regulated office in the State. Charles Radcliff, now living in Alameda; and W. W. Taylor, now in the State Senate, whom I first met in Tuolumne Lodge, No. 8, F. & A. M., as brothers of the mystic tie. James Stewart, George Work, Mayor Solomon, all holding at different times the position of sheriff. Work was a fearless man, but was finally killed at Adamsville by Earley Lyons, a desperado from the State of Georgia, who bragged of having killed some sixteen men. It was no uncommon thing to see from one to three men laid out in the morning, having been killed in a gambling row during the night. The 'Long Tom' was a favorite resort, kept by Mr. Murphy, an affable gentleman, and not one of the style of gamblers of the present day. 'The Palace' was another resort for gentlemen, who generally met there of an evening, either for pleasure or to discuss the wonderful productions of the placer diggings. The proprietor was Johnny Smith, now of Merced, a whole-souled man, which anybody will endorse who knows him. General J. W. Mandiville was one of our distinguished citizens, being in the State Senate, United States Surveyor-General, and Controller of the State. Also, E. Conway, chief clerk in the United States Surveyor-General's office, and Judge Creanor, for a long time our district judge, was well liked in the community."

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture in Tuolumne has never achieved importance sufficient to entitle it to mention as a prominent industry. However, there are within the confines of the county many small but fertile valleys where farming is carried on to a considerable extent, though the development in this direction is yet small in proportion to the possibilities. In the portions of the county nearest the great valley there are a number of good farms, though for the greater portion farming even here is carried on incidentally with stock-raising. Stock-raising is profitably carried on over a considerable area. The valleys particularly produce a luxuriant growth of rich native grasses, and the ranges furnish pasturage during the summer and fall months for something like 150,000 head of migratory stock, principally cattle, sheep and horses, which are driven up from the lower country.

FRUIT AND VINE INTERESTS.

As a fruit and vine district, Tuolumne county has not as yet attained the importance that far-seeing men predict for her in the future. However, the flavor of the fruit and the excellence of the wines now produced here are worthy of especial notice, and indeed have already attracted much attention.

To Julius Smart is generally conceded the honor of being the pioneer horticulturist of Tuolumne, and many of the orchards throughout this entire district have sprung from cuttings taken from his place.

Mr. Smart was one of the early settlers of Jacksonville, twelve miles from Sonora, on the Tuolumne river, where he began operations as a vegetable gardener, the products of his garden readily retailing at $1 a pound among the miners.

In 1850 he gave vegetable dinners to

the miners, the charge for participation therein being $2.50 a head.

During that year he received by steamer at San Francisco a small consignment of trees, sufficient to fill only a modest-sized box, from the State of Maine, for which he paid $500. With these he started a nursery, planted an orchard, and it was not long until he had peach, fig, pear, apple and other trees well under way, as well as a limited number of grapevines. From those he took cuttings, and soon had an orchard of considerable extent.

In 1853 he had the first ripe peaches, which brought surprising prices. In 1854 he sold his peaches to Peter Lesher, who paid for them fifty cents apiece on the place; Lesher, in turn, retailed them in Sonora at a dollar a peach.

In 1855 he had considerable fruit to market, and by 1858 there were sixteen acres of bearing trees, and the orchard was leased to Mr. Leshor, who conducted it until 1864. It is now a thing of the past, having been destroyed in the course of mining operations, and the ground worked over for gold.

All the early fruit men of this section got the trees to start their orchards from Smart.

John Kelly, at Sawmill Flat, started fruit culture in 1855.

The Jarvis orchard, at Gold Spring, was started about 1854. It now consists of about 100 acres, principally apples and grapes, and has a winery in connection with the vineyard.

John Pereira, of Jamestown, is another one of the early fruit men, and one who has done much to demonstrate the possibilities of the county in this direction. On the Pereira ranch there are about 140 acres in a variety of fruits and vines, peaches, pears, plums, apples, cherries and figs being among the bearing trees, as well as Italian chestnuts, imported from Madeira. There is a winery on the place, with a product of from 5,000 to 15,000 gallons per annum.

James Goodwin, at Mountain pass, has a flourishing orchard, as have Macomber brothers, in the Sonora district, though the trees of the latter are principally apple, and the product of the place largely cider and vinegar.

The Comstock ranch, about forty miles above Sonora, is well known as producing some of the finest apples in California.

P. M. Trask, located about a mile from Columbia, has a large vineyard and winery, the vineyard having been started in 1857. The orchard on this place comprises among its trees, peaches, pears, apples, plums, cherries, English walnuts, figs, etc.

The place of Edward Doyle, two miles from Columbia, also has a flourishing orchard and vineyard.

There are some favored places in Tuolumne county where oranges thrive, but no effort to cultivate them on a substantial scale has been made, though several families have one or more trees that have done very well indeed.

The day will undoubtedly come, however, when Tuolumne will be one of the prominent wine-producing counties of the State, as well as very important in the production of fruits other than citrus.

EDUCATION.

The first public school in Tuolumne county was built in township number 1, in 1853, but in the following year three more were established.

Of course there had been efforts in the direction of education previous to the date mentioned, but at that time organized work commenced.

In his report to the State superintendent of public instruction for 1890, Mr. G. P. Morgan, superintendent of schools of Tuolumne county, takes occasion to say: "The schools of Tuolumne county were never in better condition than at the present time. During the four years, visits have been made annually to all of the schools, with four exceptions, and the progress and improvement have been marked. The teachers, pupils and parents are in harmony, and all work for one purpose, that of making the schools what they should be."

From the report made by the superintendent of public instruction of the State of California for the census year 1890, the following information is extracted in regard to the schools and school matters of Tuolumne county: Number of children of school age, 1,586; number of children who attended public school at any time during the year, 1,227, of whom two were negroes, five Indians and one Chinese; there were sixteen who attended private schools only; the average number enrolled was 1,329; average daily attendance, 830; number attending grammar grades, 508; primary grade, 821; number of grammar schools, 13; primary schools, 23; total number of schools, 36; schoolhouses, 31; school districts, 30; average monthly wages paid male teachers, $72.50; average monthly wages paid female teachers, $74.00; assessed valuation of taxable property, $2,716,465; balance on hand in school fund at beginning of school year, $4,020.60; cash received from State apportionment, $15,200.99; cash received from county taxes, $8,068; cash received from miscellaneous sources, $60; total receipts from all sources, $27,349.59; amount paid for teachers' salaries, $18,071.62; total expenditures $22,168.45; amount on hand at close of school year, $5,181.14; total valuation of school property, $30,748; number of volumes in school library, 5,507.

SONORA.

LOCATION AND NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS.

SONORA lies in a small valley, and the view of the hills surrounding the town, clad in their green verdure, is a beautiful one.

Milton, the nearest railroad station, is thirty-five miles distant. The elevation above sea level is 1,816 feet at the post-office.

Though there is no railroad in the county, Sonora is easily accessible from the outside world, passengers leaving San Francisco in the morning arriving there the same evening, there being regular stage connection with Milton, Oakdale and Modesto.

Sonora has a desirable climate, there being no long spells of hot weather in summer, while the nights are always cool. The successful cultivation of oranges in the town demonstrates the mildness of the winters, though sometimes there are light falls of snow.

THE HISTORIC EARLY DAYS.

No mining center of California has had wider fame than Sonora, the county seat of Tuolumne county, and the metropolis of the southern mining district.

Many of the most eminent men of California made this place their home for a time and legions of anecdotes related by the old gold hunters of this State have Sonora for their scene.

It was but a short time after the news of the finding of gold became authenticated, that prospectors began branching out from the place of original discovery to seek new locations where the precious metals might be found, while many of the new arrivals that came crowding in sought new fields to explore for themselves. The Mexicans were the first miners in Tuolumne; and numbers of them from Sonora, Mexico, congregated about the present location of the county seat in 1848. On this account their location became known as Sonora camp. American miners followed closely upon their heels, however, and as the two nationalities lived

much to themselves, the settlement took the name of the Campo Americano.

Success attended the efforts of most of the miners at this time, as the diggings were very rich, the knowledge of which fact brought new arrivals each day, and before the year 1848 had closed it was thought necessary to organize for governmental purposes, which was done, the Mexican and American camps uniting and electing R. S. Ham as alcalde. This was here, as elsewhere, an office of great authority, the holder being invested with executive as well as judicial powers. Mr. Ham was succeeded by James Frazier as alcalde, he by H. W. Theall, and he in turn by Charles F. Dodge, who was in office when Tuolumne was organized as a county.

By the fall of 1849 the population of the camp had increased until it reached something like 5,000 souls, and on the 7th day of November, 1849, a public meeting was held for the purpose of organizing a town government. The place had by this time taken on the name of Sonora, and at this meeting the name was definitely decided upon.

The councilmen chosen for the first local government were: C. T. Dodge, Peter Mahon, Joshua Holden, E. Schonberg, C. Labetouse, William Perkins and J. B. Litton. R. S. Ham was elected alcalde.

A hospital was now established on account of the general prevalence of scurvy, which had been caused by the absence of fresh vegetables during the preceding year. Here the suitable diet was provided, though attended with what would seem to-day an enormous expense. Potatoes were bought at $1.40 per pound, and lime-juice, an essential in the treatment of scurvy, cost $5.00 per bottle.

SONORA BECOMES THE COUNTY SEAT.

When the bill for the creation of the county of Tuolumne became a law, passed by the Legislature then in session at San José, it was decided that Sonora should be the county seat. Colonel Treasser, desiring to give a few friends the benefit of inside information on this point, so that they might take up as many lots as possible for speculative purposes before the selection of Sonora as a county seat became generally known, immediately sent the news to Joshua Holden, advising him to also let certain others into the secret. There was a meeting of the council on the very evening that word came, and Mr. Holden, who was in attendance as a member, instead of carrying out the idea of Colonel Treasser, gave the first intimation of Sonora's good fortune to the council. That body then took action securing to the town, in its name, all the unoccupied lots, the map then in existence, the work of Messrs. Cooper & Galledge, affording the requisite information. It was resolved to sell these lots at public auction, the money realized to be devoted to hospital expenses, after the cost of survey and sale had been met.

ORGANIZED AS A CITY.

In May, 1851, under a charter granted by the Legislature, Sonora was organized as a city.

At the election held to form the first

city government the following officers were chosen: Charles F. Dodge, mayor; James F. McFarland, marshal; A. W. Luckett, clerk; L. A. Besaucon, attorney; Daniel E. Sayre, treasurer; Leander Quint, recorder; J. W. Richardson, assessor; A. F. Chatfield, H. W. Theall, H. T. Fuller, R. S. Gladwin, I. P. Young, Abraham Tuttle and L. G. Gunn, board of aldermen. C. M. Radcliff and H. G. Platt were elected justices of the peace.

INDUSTRIES OF THE CITY.

The Sonora Foundry and Machine Shop was established over a quarter of a century ago, and has a reputation for good work, especially in the line of mining machinery. The machinery is operated by water the year round. When running full-handed employment is given to as many as twenty men.

The Sonora City Mills, established in 1872, are equipped with the roller process. Buhrs were formerly used, but were discarded for the new method. Some of the grain ground by this mill is brought in from other counties. The capacity is twenty-five barrels per day, and the motive power is water.

The proprietors of the City Mills also carry on a large lumber and planing-mill business. They have a sawmill in the timber district, twelve miles from Sonora, with a capacity for cutting 10,000 feet of lumber per day. The timber is principally sugar and yellow pine.

G. W. Hale has a lumber yard and planing-mill in Sonora. The lumber mills are about eighteen miles from Sonora, and have a cutting capacity of 2,500,000 feet per annum.

The Bradford lumber yard, planing-mill, blacksmith shop, etc., at Sonora is an extensive plant, and does all kinds of work indicated by the classification of the business. It handles a portion of the product of the Empire Mill Company, located about twenty-five miles from Sonora, in the mountains, which has a capacity of 40,000 feet of lumber per day.

The Reduction Works, located about a mile from Sonora, treat sulphurets from all portions of the county, and have a capacity of about three tons per day. The plant, which was erected in the fall of 1889, by Albert Maltman, is thoroughly equipped for the work undertaken, and has proven of great advantage to the mining interests hereabouts.

Sonora is supplied with water by the Gold Mountain Water Company, which draws its supplies from springs, the principal ones of which are at Brown's Flat, two miles distant, though one is in Holden's Garden, within the limits of the city. The water is conveyed to the town through a six-inch pipe, and two lines of four-inch pipe run through Sonora, supplying it with water.

The Sonora Soda Works, which were established in 1852, have a capacity for manufacturing and bottling 400 dozen bottles of their non-intoxicating drinks per day, and supply a large portion of the county.

The city is supplied with good hotels, well-stocked business houses, schools, churches and other conveniences, and there are lodges of

all the prominent secret and fraternal societies, besides a young men's club, a leading and prosperous social organization with a large membership.

J. H. Shine, who controls most of the stage lines running throughout this entire region, resides at Sonora, and is one of the most progressive men in this portion of the State.

MINES OF THE DISTRICT.

Of the present mines in and about Sonora, the celebrated Bonanza mine has had the most marked history. It dates its discovery back to 1850, though it has not been continuously worked since that time. It is what is known as a pocket mine, and the location of the rich pockets which have made it famous seem to follow a well-defined rule, being found wherever a quartz crossing, a gold seam and a hanging wall conclude within a belt of slate. In 1879 there were taken out of the Bonanza mine, within a period of thirty-six hours, 989 pounds of gold. In 1889 there was taken out, in one piece, 156 pounds. M. B. Harriman, an able and efficient miner, is superintendent of this mine.

The Golden Gate mine comprises the Golden Gate and Golden Sulphuret claims, and is operated by a company incorporated in August, 1889, as the Consolidated Golden Gate and Sulphuret Mining and Developing Company. Their sulphurets are said to average $400 to the ton, and some have been reduced which showed the remarkable result of $5,430 to the ton. This property is generally conceded to be very valuable, and is being worked by the most approved methods. The principal owners in the company are J. A. Fischer, of San Francisco, and E. C. Loftus, the superintendent.

The Buchanan mine, operated by the Buchanan Mill and Mining Company, of which A. E. Davis, of San Francisco, is president, is a valuable property and is worked on an extensive scale with improved machinery and methods. It is located about fourteen miles east of Sonora, and has been worked more or less for many years. Superintendent Edwards is a thorough mining man.

The Bell View mine, of which Messrs. Bell, Maxwell, Hotaling and other well-known capitalists are owners, and J. W. Maxwell superintendent, ranks as one of the important mines in the district about Sonora.

The Rawhide, about five miles from Sonora, on the mother lode, has had its intervals of rest, but is counted among the valuable locations, and has a good equipment of machinery. W. A. Neville and Ballard & Evans are the principal owners.

The Consolidated Eureka mine, comprising the Eureka and Dead Horse claims, each 600 x 1,500 feet, at Summersville, ten miles from Sonora, is the property of Hayward & Hobart, who have been very successful in their handling of California mines. C. H. Thomas is superintendent.

Among the other more prominent mines in this region may be mentioned the Kelso, owned by an English company and superintended by William Sharwood; the Black Oak, owned by Scott & Dow, P. W. Scott, superintendent; the Badger, owned by Grayson &

McNally, John McNally, superintendent; the Live Oak, owned by Scott & Dow, P. W. Dow, superintendent; the Heslop, owned and superintended by John App; the Stanley, owned by a San Francisco company, and superintended by Joseph Newman.

None of these are over eleven miles from Sonora, save the Buchanan, which is distant but a few miles further.

It is a difficult matter, however, to give a list of the valuable mines of Tuolumne county which shall hold good for any considerable length of time, inasmuch as there is constant development going on, by means of which are suddenly brought into existence paying mines whose existence was hardly known of previous to the "strike," while mines that have been supposed to be worked out and abandoned in the past are once more transformed into veritable bonanzas by some persistent and enterprising prospector. There may then be mentioned also in this connection, the San Guiseppe mine, Reyland's mine, the Saratoga, the Fairview, the Saratoga Hill, the Sonora, the Pine Nut, the Experimental Gulch, the Buzzard's Roost, the Koenig & McKenna, the old Tuolumne, the Shanghai, the Green, the Oakland, the Golden Era, the Van Trump, the Marryatt, the Long Gulch, the Patterson, the Isabella, the Neubanner, the Soulsby, the Somerset, the Grizzly, the Consuelo, the Riverside, the Platt & Gilson, the Perrin, the Parole, the Galena, the New Albany, the Louisiana, the Little Gem, the Alabama, the Knox & Boyle, the Crystalline, the Dutch, the Mount Jefferson, the Mount Zion, the Slapjack, the Cosmopolite, the John Jones, the Butler, the Kanaka, the Equinoctial, the Belcher, the Mary Ellen, the Tuolumne river quartz mines, the Mascotte, the Kingstone, the Worcester, the Buckeye and many others, which may or may not prove productive properties.

Pocket mining has been and now is much in vogue in Tuolumne county, the great stores of wealth from time to time found in the Bonanza mine having proven a great incentive thereto. Now that there are found to be natural laws which govern in a greater or less degree the locations of these pockets, there is every reason to believe that the development in this direction will increase rather than diminish, and there are certainly a great many pocket prospectors now in the field.

As regards the future of quartz mining in Tuolumne county, there is but one idea in the minds of the most thoroughly posted men, and that is, that the real quartz mining history of the county has only just begun.

The attention of heavy capitalists, with the means at their command to carry to a successful completion any undertaking with which they may identify themselves is now more than ever turned to Tuolumne county, and it seems a safe prophecy to predict that her quartz mines will, in the not far distant future, be one of the principal glories and main sources of wealth of California, with such prosperity as only successful mining can produce. About eight miles northeast of Sonora is a quarry which shows an apparently inexhaustible supply of marble, of beautiful

color, and suitable for many commercial purposes.

THE PRESS.

The *Union-Democrat*, the oldest living paper of Tuolumne county, and one of the oldest in the State of California, was first issued by A. N. Francisco on July 1, 1854. From that time to the present, the paper has never missed an issue, though once it was necessary to get it printed at Stockton, the office having been destroyed by fire. The paper is Democratic in politics, and has a strong following throughout the county. The present proprietors are: J. A. Van Harlinger, Wm. H. Roberts and I. M. Kalloch.

The *Tuolumne Independent* was established in 1872 by Messrs. J. C. and W. A. Duchow, and is now published by J. C. Duchow. It is independent in politics, but is alive to the issues of the day and well edited. It is a seven-column quarto in form.

The *Democratic Banner* was first published May 1, 1885, by the present editors and managers, A. J. and W. C. Jones. It is Democratic in politics, as its name implies, but is a fearless, aggressive paper, and is fully alive to the interests of the county with which it is identified.

NEWSPAPERS OF THE PAST.

The Sonora *Herald*, the first paper published in Tuolumne county, was established by John G. Marvin and John White, and made its first appearance on July 4, 1850, printed on foolscap paper, as were the six numbers succeeding. Those papers sold at four bits a copy. The original partnership continued but a short time, and then the interest of Mr. White was purchased by J. R. Reynolds, and Mr. Marvin sold out a short time later. Other changes soon followed, and after the fortieth issue Dr. L. C. Gunn became sole proprietor, and so continued until May 22, 1852, when he sold out to James O'Sullivan and Walter Murry. In February, 1853, the latter became sole proprietor, and in August, 1853, sold again to Dr. Gunn. In April, 1854, Alexander Murry and James O'Sullivan succeeded to the ownership of the paper by purchase, and in September, 1854, Mr. O'Sullivan purchased his partner's interest.

The *Mountain Whig* was started at Sonora in the summer of 1852, but was a fleeting venture and lived only five weeks.

OTHER TOWNS.

COLUMBIA.

The next town to Sonora in size and importance is Columbia, but in comparison to the great mining camp of early days the Columbia of to-day is a quiet place indeed.

This was one of the richest mining towns in California during the palmy days of the placer mines, and the immense amount of work that has been done here may readily be surmised from the condition of the surface all about.

A large portion of the old town has been torn down and the ground occupied by the buildings washed over, yielding rich returns, so that what is left in the way of buildings does not give a fair idea of the former size of the town. The largest nugget ever taken out at Columbia was $10,000.

There are a number of mines in which more or less work is being done in the region about Columbia, and a fine marble quarry about two miles and a half from the town. This quarry was opened in 1861, and one of the first pieces taken out was used to make the Broderick monument, in Lone Mountain Cemetery, San Francisco. Twelve-hundred tons were also shipped to fill a contract on the Palace Hotel during its construction; some of it was used in the new city hall at San Francisco, and it has also been shipped as far as Portland, Oregon.

There are also a number of plans in the vicinity having excellent orchards and vineyards.

J. D. Peters, a well-known pioneer, and now a capitalist of Stockton, relates the following: "I'll never forget the time the first woman came into Columbia. The miners heard that she was coming, and they all quit work and marched four miles down the road, to meet her. Several large arches were erected over the road, and a band of music led the march into town. The town was alive with miners when we got there, who came in from the hills to get a glimpse of the woman and participate in the celebration.

JAMESTOWN.

This historic place, known to the old miners as "Jimtown," lies about four miles and a half southwest of Sonora, and, like many another of the old mining towns, is but a shadow of the Jamestown of old. A good school and two churches are kept up, however, and the inhabitants have not lost heart, as they look for quartz mining to restore much of the prosperity of former days; and indeed there are a number of mines in the vicinity which are favorably considered by good judges, and by capitalists who have money to invest in them. These mines are mentioned in connection with the others of the county.

CHINESE CAMP.

This old and celebrated mining camp is thus described by Captain Ayers, an old pioneer of Tuolumne and Stanislaus counties:

"Chinese Camp, lying on the road from Knight's Ferry to Sonora, was started in 1849 by some Englishmen who had Chinamen to work for them at gold washing. They had a house at what was afterward called Campo Salvado, in which, in 1850, E. W. Emory kept store. This camp was mostly populated by Mexicans. In 1850 the emigration settled more on the other side of the hill, called New Chinese, which became the main camp.

"Several gulches were very rich. Lack of water made it necessary to cart the dirt a considerable distance to some spring or reservoir. In later years a flume across Montezuma Flat brought water near Six-Bit Gulch. Finally the citizens made an arrangement with a water company. They brought an iron syphon across Woods' creek, and divided it into ditches in and around the camp. At the expiration of the contract the town was without water. The placers had been worked out. In prosperous times more than 300 votes were polled at elections.

"It had its brass band, an efficient hook and ladder company, Freemasons, Odd Fel-

lows lodges, etc. In June, 1856, part of the town was destroyed by fire, but afterward built up more substantially.

"It was the headquarters of the Chinese for the surrounding country, and four of the six companies had their agents here. In the summer of 1856 there was a battle between two large forces of Chinese. One of them was killed outright, and one wounded with a bayonet, and his heart was soon afterward cut out.

"Chinese Camp suffered much from fires, and has now many vacant places where brick buildings used to stand.

"Like most old camps, it had its vigilance committee. Robbers were numerous, and became so bad that they attacked men in open daylight, and robbed the Chinese whenever they could. In December, 1852, they attacked a livery stable keeper of Chinese Camp. Two notorious thieves and murderers were arrested and put in prison. That night the fire-bell gave one tap, the prison door was burst open, and the prisoners taken to a tree and hung. The occupants of a rendezvous of the robbers were given notice to leave, and for more than a year the robberies ceased.

"Between Salvado and Chinese Camp is a high hill, formed of cement and large boulders; this cement contained much gold. One mile from Chinese Camp was Wood's creek, the beds and banks of which have been very rich."

Chinese Camp, like many other camps of the placer regions, was very prosperous, but like the others its glory has departed. There is now but very little mining about the town, though when water is plentiful a number may be seen at work, and sometimes with good success. The surrounding country is, however, well adapted to fruit growing, and some of the best orchards in the county are in the vicinity. Peaches, pears, plums, apricots, grapes, etc., thrive and are produced in abundance here.

BRIEFER MENTION.

Summersville is another old mining town, but one that has about it now a number of quartz mines, some of which are paying properties, and others of considerable promise.

Tuttletown is located about six miles from Sonora, and has in its vicinity several good mines, some of which have been worked for many years.

Jackass Hill is a famous district for pocket mining, and some of the old mines which were given up as worked out are now being gone over systematically in search of the rich deposits.

Big Oak Flat is a village located about thirteen miles from Chinese Camp, and achieves whatever of importance attaches to it from the mining industry.

Groveland lies about two miles northeast of Big Oak Flat, and is in the midst of a rich agricultural and mining district.

Soulsbyville is situated about eight miles northeast of Sonora, at an elevation of 2,880 feet above sea-level. There are a number of well-known mines in this vicinity, and some of them are valuable properties.

Jacksonville is another one of the old towns. Its present resources are mining and farming.

Confidence, about four miles from Soulsbyville, on the Mono road, is the location of the old and well-known Confidence mine. There are also several other mines in this neighborhood. The altitude of the town is 4,300 feet.

Sugar Pine is about a mile further up on the Mono road, and is the terminus of the stage line.

The Tioga District is up on the border of Mono county. There are some good mines here, yielding both gold and silver.

Sawmill Flat is a pocket mining district, and considerable work is done here in this peculiar branch of mining.

STORY OF MORMON GULCH.

This account of the celebrated old mining camp is from the pen of L. C. Branch, a bright and enterprising lawyer and capitalist who was reared in Stanislaus county, and who enjoyed a wide personal acquaintance among the old pioneers of this district:

"Mormon Gulch was a lively camp in 1849. The Sonoran camp, as Sonora was then called, and Woods' creek, were the best known mining localities in Tuolumne county, and the Spanish code prevailed at that time in California. Colonel Taylor, of Stevenson's regiment, was sub-prefect of the San Joaquin district, which comprised the whole territory known as the Southern mines. West Van Benschoten's was the popular trading station for miles around, and Mormon Gulch was four miles distant. It was discovered early in the summer of 1849, and among the first to locate in it were a number of the men who had deserted from Colonel Graham's command, which had been ordered from Texas to California. They were a wild, lawless and desperate set, and Bill Bailey, the most reckless of them all, ranked as a leader among them. It was a period of rich diggings, anything less than an ounce a day to the man being reckoned as too poor to work; but so much better had the few claims opened in the gulch paid, that in a few weeks two or three hundred miners gathered in it. It was a long bar, transversely crossed by a creek, and high hills rose up on all sides. Just why it was called Mormon Gulch no one could tell, but the story went that a party of Mormons first struck rich diggings there. Four miles away, across the hills, were the rich Stanislaus diggings, along the river from which the name was derived, and on the banks of that stream was the camping ground of the tribe of Indians of whom Jose Jesus was head chief, and his brother, Wild Bill, next in rank. Robinson's crossing, so called from the trader who had a store there, was the regular fording place, and a mile back in the hills were the very rich claims of three of Stevenson's regiment; General Frank Pinto, now of New York; Ed. Irwin, sheriff of Sierra county in 1855–'56, and subsequently, in 1869, of White Pine, Nevada; and Judge Schoemacher, out of which each of the three made his pile before the close of 1850, and thence left for the settlements. Among the prominent early locaters in Mormon Gulch were Judge Tuttle, afterward county judge of Tuolumne, long since dead; George Pendleton, who kept the principal store; Dr. Woodland, of Louisiana; Thomas

Wade, in after years mayor of Placerville, and later of Mokelumne Hill, and Mike Tubbs, an English sailor, who was alcalde. * * *

"Everything was high, because freights were excessive, the packers and teamsters charging six bits a pound from Stockton, while they charged only four bits to Sonora, Main Camp and Woods' creek. Salt pork, sugar, salt, coffee, tea, biscuit and flour sold at from $1.25 to $1.50 per pound, and saleratus at ounce for ounce in gold dust. The only potatoes ever brought to the camp, by an adventurous trader, went off like hot cakes at $5 per pound, and a young pig a sailor brought there was swept up by Jake Schoonmaker, while on a Sunday visit, at the startling price of twenty ounces. It was made the occasion of a grand banquet in his camp, which cost above $1,000. In 1854 Jake was back in his New York home working at his trade as a book-binder, at less wages per month than he used to spend on a "general treat" on his visits to Mormon Gulch. But gold was plenty with him then. One morning he picked up a $600 nugget while prospecting, and it was a poor week for his company when their dividend fell below forty ounces to each of the three. Pick, bar, knife and pan were the only tools then used. There was but one rocker in camp, and its owners were not among the lucky ones. The bed rock was rarely lower than five feet, and pay dirt was found almost from the surface down. Claims were limited to twelve feet width on the bar or creek, and thence back agreeably to the regulations from time to time made by the miners of the whole camp, according to their own peculiar code. From one of these claims an old man had taken a total of seventy-two pounds of gold in a space of five weeks, and others left the camp in the late fall of '49 with even a larger pile than this."

MARIPOSA COUNTY.

ORGANIZATION, BOUNDARIES AND AREA.

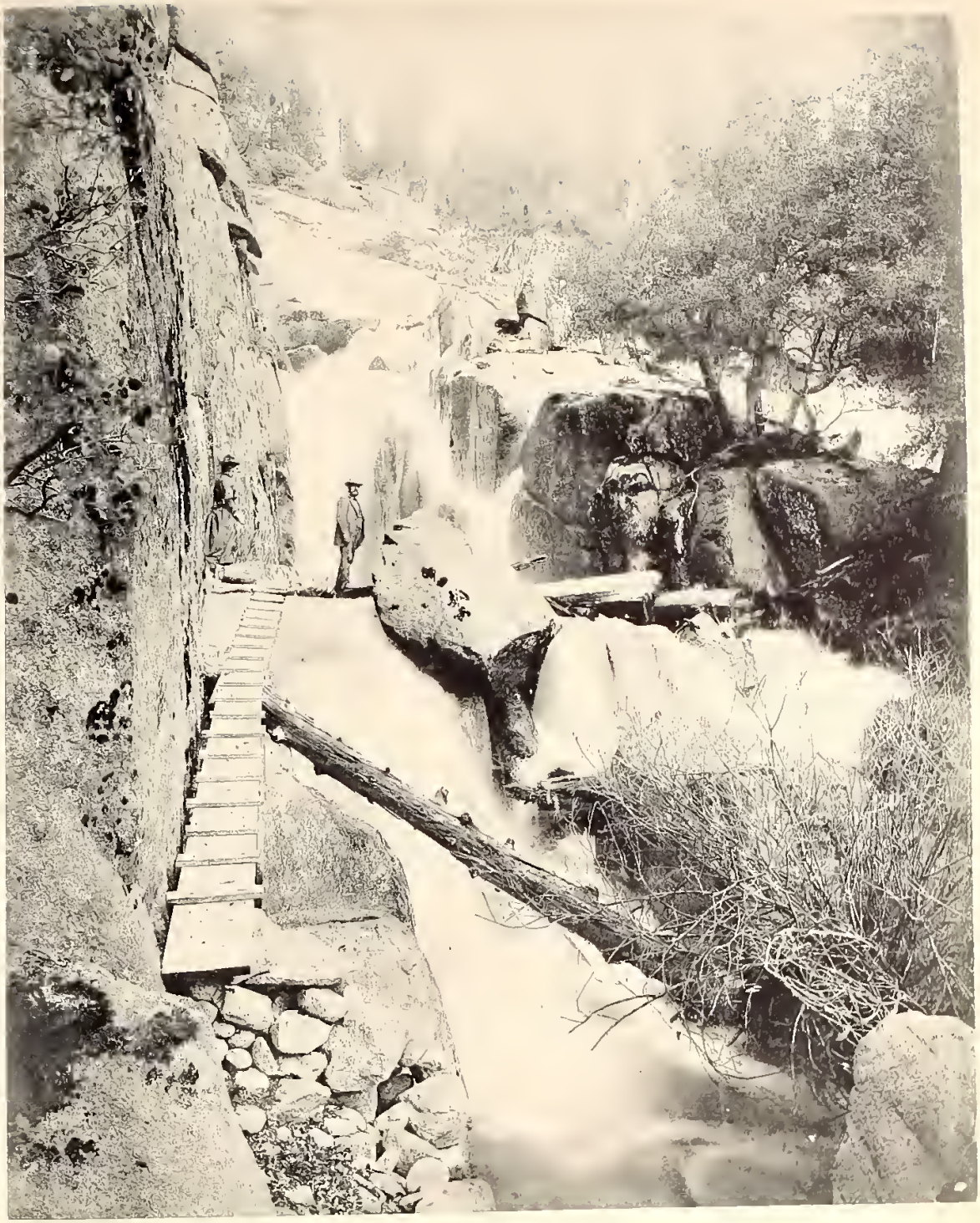
The State of California was divided into twenty-seven counties by the act of February, 1850, which subdivided the State and located the various county seats. Mariposa was one of the original counties and embraced about one-fifth of the State within her boundaries, which were defined as follows: "Beginning on the summit of the Coast Range, at the southwest corner of Tuolumne county, and running thence along the southern boundary of said county to the summit of the Sierra Nevada; thence along the summit of the Sierra Nevada to the parallel of thirty-eight degrees of north latitude; thence due east on the said parallel to the boundary of the State; thence in a southeasterly direction following said boundary to the northwest boundary of San Diego county; thence due south along the boundary of San Diego county to the northeast corner of Los Angeles county, and thence in a northwesterly direction, along the summit of the Coast Range, to the place of beginning. The seat of justice shall be at Agua Frio."

The territory thus described contained about 25,000 square miles, but this has been reduced by subsequent legislation for the creation of other counties to such an extent that the total area of Mariposa county is now 1,543 square miles, which includes the grants ceded to the State of California by the general Government of the Yosemite valley, and Big Tree Grove, containing 36,111 and 2,560 acres respectively—quite a large county yet, but insignificant in comparison with the princely domain with which it entered into existence.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

Mining is now, and has been since 1849, the principal industrial pursuit of the inhabitants of Mariposa county. In the early days of placer mining, some of the diggings in this county ranked well up with the best in the State.

Among the prosperous camps of those days were Agua Frio (upper and lower) Mormon



LOWER CHIL-NOO-AL-NA FALLS WAWONA STATION.
MARIPOSA CO.

Bar, Sherlock's, Whitlock's, Bridgeport and Colorado, all lying within a few miles of Mariposa. From twenty to twenty-five miles in a westerly direction were the thriving mining towns of Quartzburg, Hornitos, and Indian Gulch. Twenty-five miles north was Banderita, a Mexican mining camp on Maxwell's creek, where Coulterville now stands, and five miles below on the Merced river, was the historic camp known as the Horse Shoe Bend. Along up the river, between the Bend and the Benton mill site, were the scattering tents and brush shanties of river miners. Princeton, five miles west from Mariposa; Mt. Ophir, a mile further away, and Bear valley, twelve miles northwesterly, were evolved a year or two later with the dawn of the quartz-mining era.

Mr. James H. Law, an old journalist and a writer of marked ability, who has written much of Mariposa county, with which he is as thoroughly conversant. as any living man, gives it as his opinion that no county in the State contains a greater amount of undeveloped mineral wealth than Mariposa; and again, after speaking of the ruinous methods adopted in the working of a celebrated property:

"The comments upon the Mariposa estate, as far as they refer to bad management, wasteful methods and expensive appliances of power, will apply to all the districts within the county, to a certain extent, and account for so many valuable mining properties now lying idle. Whoever will have the nerve and the capital to throttle the Merced river, with its immense water power now running to waste and work it in harness for practical business, will solve the problem of development of mining and other dormant industries in the Butterfly County."

The various mining districts will be treated of briefly in connection with the principal towns in them.

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE.

In the western portion of the county, there is considerable agricultural land, and farming and stock-raising is carried on to an extent worth mentioning.

Portions of the county are well adapted to certain of the fruits, and the apples of Mariposa are as fine as are raised in California. Olives do well, also a variety of other fruits, while berries produce in lavish quantities and splendid quality. Potatoes and vegetables generally thrive in many localities.

MARIPOSA.

This town became the seat of justice the second year of the organization of the county and has ever since retained that honor. Much of the early mining was done within a radius of a few miles of Mariposa, including that at Agua Frio, the old county seat.

Colonel Archie Stevenson, one of the first merchants in the county, opened up a store here in 1849. The town grew rapidly with the progress of the rich diggings, and was one of the most prosperous places in the Southern mines.

Much interesting history attaches to the company which has operated so extensively on the grant.

The original grant, Las Mariposas, was made by Governor Micheltorena in February,

1844, to Juan B. Alvarado, being described as ten square leagues lying between the boundaries of the Sierra Nevada and the rivers Chowchilla, Merced and San Joaquin. John C. Fremont purchased the grant in 1847, and the first survey, made in 1849, ran down into the lower foothills and even upon the plains. The grant was confirmed by the land commissioners in 1852, but their decision was reversed by the United States District Court in 1854, and in the following year, being taken into the Supreme Court of the United States, the case was remanded and a decree entered in conformity to this opinion. In 1855 a re-survey was made, and in consequence of the discovery of valuable mines at Princeton, Mt. Ophir and Bear valley, the lines were zigzaged, and a long, narrow strip of the territory run out to the Merced river so as to include these properties, and a patent in accordance with this survey was issued February 10, 1856. A legal contest ensued involving the question of miners and settlers' rights, which was settled by the Supreme Court of California in 1859. The property during its handling under various ownerships, has been known successively as the Fremont grant, the Mariposa Mining Company, the Mariposa Land and Mining Company, the Mariposa Land and Mining Company of California, and the name is now the Mariposa Commercial and Mining Company.

The property has been mortgaged time and again, bonded, etc., and among its managers have been the following: Palmer, Cook & Company, Trenor W. Park, Frederick Law, Olmstead, Brummagin Bros., L. C. Dodge, and a number of others. In 1887 the property was purchased by Heyward & Hobart, Messrs. Flood & Mackay, and Senator J. P. Jones.

The old Mariposa mine is situated on a branch of the mother lode.

The Pine Tree, Josephine, Mt. Ophir, and Guadalupe-Princeton are on this lode. The mines at Princeton, Mt. Ophir, Green Gulch, Mariposa and Bear valley have in former times yielded immense returns.

The population of the town of Mariposa is now about 500, and much of the importance that now attaches to the town is by virtue of its historic past, the fact of its being the headquarters for county business, and lastly, the hope for the future.

HORNITOS.

Hornitos, meaning "ovens," was started by a company of French miners in 1850.

Dr. John Kellet, who is still a resident of California, located there in 1851, and operated a quartz mill by water power, with a wheel forty-five feet in diameter. His mine was located about a mile above the old place, and he employed in the work of building, digging ditches, etc., some Mexicans who had been driven down from the north by Joaquin Murrietta.

In the flourishing days of mining there were probably 1,000 people in the town, but now it is a much smaller place.

The Hornitos mining district includes the town of Hornitos and its environs, Quartzburg, Hunter's Valley, the Washington mine, Mount Gaines, Quartz Mountain and Indian

Gulch. The Washington mine has a shaft 1,600 feet in depth, and these are the deepest workings in the county. The principal fraternal organizations here are Hornitos Lodge, No. 98, F. & A. M., and Hornitos Lodge, No. 99, I. O. O. F.

COULTERVILLE.

This town is located on Maxwell's creek, and was in the early days the center of a rich mining district. Now there are some mines lying opened up in the vicinity which show every indication of being splendid producers.

The town was named after G. W. Coulter, who is now clerk in the El Capitan Hotel, Merced. He took some Mexicans up into the Mariposa gold fields in the spring of 1850, but they did not find any good diggings. He started a little store at the mouth of Solomon's Gulch, on the Merced river, where there were then rich placers, but soon one of the Mexicans came over there and told him there were a great many miners on Maxwell's creek, where there was no store to get supplies. Deciding to take advantage of the opportunity, he got five loads of goods from Mariposa, and four loads from a store on the Tuolumne river, and meeting a pack-train loaded with supplies on the road he bought out the entire pack-load, and with these went to Maxwell's creek. He had a round tent, and tying it up to a limb of a large tree, he spread it out and made a store of it. The mining was then about four miles above, at Blue Gulch and Colorow, Blue Gulch being very rich. After Mr. Coulter started his store, others soon gathered around, and the town which resulted was called Banderita, meaning "a flag," so called from a flag which Mr. Coulter had flung to the breeze. When a post office was located there, it was called Maxwell's Creek for a time, but "the boys" soon had it changed to Coulterville, in honor of its founder, who was popular with them.

Good diggings were soon opened up near the town, and quartz was also discovered shortly afterward.

Mr. Coulter had considerable trouble with the Indians after locating there, and lost an outfit of mules one night, and when he bought a train at Stockton, loaded, and brought the goods up into the locality, most of them were also stolen.

Yo Semito Lodge, No. 133, F. & A. M., of Coulterville, was chartered in May, 1859. Its first roster of officers was as follows: John M. Hendricks, W. M.; Isaac Harris, S. W.; John M. Aikens, J. W.; George Counts, Treas.; James Leonard, Sec.; Thomas W. Long, S. D.; Carlton Davidson, J. D.; Oliver H. Joy and Robert McCoy, Stewards; Isaac H. Sherman, Tyler. The lodge erected a $5,000 building in 1860, of which the second floor was retained for the use of the lodge, while the entire first story was given over to public school purposes, for which it is yet used. The lodge has bravely maintained an organization through the dark as well as bright days of the town. Its present officers are: Samuel B. Ferguson, W. M.; Daniel Wagner, S. W.; Charles Wagner, J. W.; Frank Horbeck, Treas.; Benjamin F. Morris, Sec.; Carlton Davidson, S. D.; Oliver Fisk, J. D.; Victor Lopis and Frederick N.

Thompson, Stewards; John Baptista Colla, Tyler.

OTHER LOCALITIES.

Bear Valley is the fourth place in the county in point of size, and has a population of something like 250 people, with good school and church facilities, social and fraternal organizations.

Sherlocks is the name of one of the historic localities, and the district to which that name is now applied includes the old Sherlock's and Whitlock mines, and a group located near old Colorado, and the waters of Sexton's creek, notably the Mexican and Feliciana. These include some famous properties, and some even now of considerable promise.

Sweetwater.—In this district may be included the Sweetwater, Bear Creek and Hite's Cove mines, situated in a northerly and easterly direction from Mariposa, and the Rutherford, Cranberry and Ferguson mines, on the main fork of the Merced river, still further north. Most of these have been profitably worked, the yield of the Hite's Cove mine running into the millions.

YO SEMITE NATIONAL PARK.

The bill creating the Yo Semite National Park was passed by Congress in October, 1882, and set apart forty-two townships, extending from the western boundary of range 19 east to and including two townships in range 26; and from the southern line of township 4 south to and including township 2 north. It encloses the Yo Semite valley, but does not include it, the valley belonging to the State of California, and embraces 1,512 square miles, or 967,000 acres, excepting the 36,000 acres of the valley proper. Of this vast tract about 400,000 acres are within the boundaries of Mariposa county.

THE YO SEMITE VALLEY.

This world-famed valley is, to tourists at least, the greatest attraction of the great State of California, with her many famous features, and is considered by all traveled authorities as one of the scenic masterpieces of the globe.

The name Yo Semite was given to the famous valley by Dr. La Fayette H. Bunnell, who saw it in 1851, and means "a large grizzly bear." The old Indian name of the valley was Ah-wah-nee.

In regard to the discovery of Yo Semite there are several accounts, each supported by more or less weight of authority. On the inquiry of the editor of the Mariposa *Gazette*, Dr. Bunnell wrote to S. M. Cunningham, the keeper of the Big Tree Grove, who was considered well posted on the subject, and he replied: "Boling's and Kukendall's company's first trip to Yo Semite, according to Mr. M. B. Lewis' adjutant's report, was early in April, 1851." Dr. Bunnell, in his article in the September (1890) *Century Magazine*, says in regard to this: "The fact is, Kukendall's company was never in the Yo Semite, but was on duty on King's river, and in the Ka-we-ah, or Four Creeks country," etc.

Dr. Bunnell was a member of the command of Major Savage, who then had a United States commission for the putting down of the Indian troubles. In the *Century* he says: "In an article written in Mani-

posa county, California, for 'Hutchings' California Magazine,' at an early day, when the events to which the paper related were fresh in memory, I stated that the Yo Semite valley was discovered in March, 1851. I did not fix the day of the month, but remembered that the discovery occurred during a long-continued rain and snow storm, at about the time of the vernal equinox. That statement was verified at the time in writing, by James M. Roan and George H. Crenshaw, two comrades who, with the writer, were the first white men to enter the valley, and who were then members of the California Legislature. The few members of the Mariposa battalion who were on the first expedition to the mountains and the valley were not likely to forget the snow-storms encountered, nor the very deep snow through which they passed. Major Savage, our commander, had waited at our camp in the foot-hills, knowing that rain below indicated snow in the mountains, and that by marching in and through the storm we would be most likely to surprise and capture the hostile Indians. We made a night march to the south fork of the Merced river, and at the summit of the Chowchilla mountain pass, found the snow at least four feet deep; but as we descended through the dense forest to the stream, the snow lessened to a few inches in depth. At daylight the storm had ceased, but it was renewed at intervals for several days in succession. Fortunately we had provided barley for our animals, and did not suffer for lack of forage.

"We captured one Indian village on the left bank of the south fork, and crossing over to the right bank assembled on a river table, now known as Bishop's Camp, named for Sergeant Samuel A. Bishop, of San José, California. This table has a southern exposure that does not allow the snow to remain long, but at that time while in camp, the snow covered the ground to a depth of three or four inches. By advice of Pon-wat-chee, chief of the village captured, Indian runners were dispatched to bring into headquarters the Indians in hiding, but no response was made by the Yo Semites. Upon a special envoy being sent, Ton-ei-ya, their chief, came along and stood in dignified silence before one of the guard, until ordered into camp. Ten-ei-ya was immediately recognized and was kindly cared for, and after he had been well supplied with food, Major Savage informed him of the orders of the Indian Commission, under which we were acting. The oldest sachem was very suspicious, but finally agreed to conduct an expedition into his beloved valley.

"Only a few men were required for this service, though all volunteered, notwithstanding it had been represented that horses might not be able to pass along the rocky trail. Finally a foot race was ordered to determine fleetness and consequent fitness of those most anxious to go. Some, in their anxiety to win the race, ran barefoot in the snow.

"Led by Ten-ei-ya and Major Savage, the expedition started next morning on a trail of lowest altitude, but we were compelled to pass through snow from three to five feet deep in places, and in a few instances, whore

the snow had drifted, even of greater depth. Only small detachments were taken by the commanders of companies B and C, Boling's and Dill's, as the trip was looked upon as likely to be only an exploration of some mysterious cañon. The importance of recording the date of the discovery of the Yo Semite did not impress itself upon my mind at the time, for I became completely absorbed in the sublimity of my surroundings. It seemed to me that I had entered God's holiest temple, where were assembled all that was most divine in material creation. For days afterward I could think only of the magnificence, beauty and grace of the waterfalls, and of the mountain scenery; and an almost total lack of appreciation of the event on the part of Major Savage caused me to think him utterly void of sentiment.

"Such experiences were not likely to have been soon forgotten, and hence my surprise when I saw in print the statement that the Yo Semite valley was first entered by the Mariposa battalion on May 5 or 6, 1851, when the rainy season would have been past. This statement is said to have been officially made by our adjutant, and, if so, must refer to the date of our second entrance, as our adjutant was not with us on our first entrance, or discovery. I have never seen the report referred to, but will suggest that, if made by our adjutant, there should have been no doubt left as to whether it was the 5th or the 6th of May. I do not wish to call in question the motives of our officers, but our little squad who first entered the valley should have the credit of the discovery, let it be what it may.

"The cliff now known as El Capitan had been seen by the writer from Mt. Bullion as early as 1849, but nothing could be learned concerning it. After the discovery we were most positively assured by Ten-ei-ya and by other Yo Semites, that we were the very first white men who had ever entered this valley, and that it could not have been entered without their knowledge."

Dr. Bunnell and comrades, with a part of Dill's company, under command of Captain John Boling, returned to the valley about the 5th of May, and made headquarters there until about the 5th of June, 1851.

In May, 1852, a party of gold hunters, consisting of Messrs. Grover, Sherman, Rose, Peabody, Babcock, Tudor and Aitch, entered the valley on a prospecting tour. They were attacked by the Indians and two of their number (Sherman and Tudor) were killed. This party also visited the Mariposa grove of big trees.

One of the members of the Mariposa Battalion, Starkey by name, was murdered in 1853. His murderers were pursued by Under-Sheriff James M. Roan, also one of the original discoverers, and when overtaken three of them were killed, and the others were killed. Mr. Moore was compelled to notice the newspaper criticisms, and in doing so, in 1854, became the first to draw attention to the wonderful character of the Yo Semite scenery.

In 1855 Mr. J. M. Hutchings visited it, and since that time has done more to bring the valley into public and appreciative notice than any other man.

According to Government surveys, Yo Semite valley comprises about 8,480 acres, a great deal of which is meadow land. The floor of the valley has an elevation of 4,000 feet above sea level, while the walls on either side rise up grandly to a height of from 3,300 to 5,300 feet above this. Waterfalls tumble over these from the heights above in forms of the most entrancing and indescribable beauty.

El Capitan, the sentinel mount of the valley, is one of the grandest mountains in the world.

Down through the valley runs with sparkle and glitter the lovely Merced, whose waters teem with trout, until it bursts out through its cañon upon the plains to lose themselves finally in the San Joaquin.

As every one knows, the wonderful features of the great Yo Semite valley are two numerous to be described in the short sketch of Mariposa county to which we are here limited.

MARIPOSA GROVE.

There have been disputes as to the authorship of the discovery of the Mariposa Grove of Big Trees, some claiming that the credit is due a hunter named Hogg, though to Major Burney, who was sheriff of Mariposa county, the honor is undoubtedly due. He, with several others, was in pursuit of some animals that had been stolen by Indians, in 1849, when he came upon the grove.

In 1855 the trees were measured by J. E. Clayton. Professor J. D. Whitney also measured them, and made a report of their size, number, etc. The trees, while not so tall as those of Calaveras, are larger in girth.

There are two groves embraced in the Government grant made to the State.

The great tree "Wawona," when in perfect condition, must have been 120 feet in circumference, and the largest tree in the world.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

HOSEA G. ALLEN, the obliging Postmaster at San Andreas, California, is a native of the Empire State, born in Orleans county, April 7, 1836. His parents were Isaac and Marietta (King) Allen, natives respectively of Maine and New York. They had eight children, four sons and four daughters. The father was a school teacher for several years, and later a farmer. Hosea was educated in the district schools of his native State, also taking a high-school course there. The first work he did for himself was to clerk in a general merchandise store. He followed that occupation three years.

April 5, 1853, Mr. Allen left New York city for California, via Nicaragua, on board the steamer Star of the West. On the Pacific he took passage for San Francisco in the Sierra Nevada, landing May 5, thirty days after leaving New York. Like the majority of new-comers to this coast, he at once sought the mines, and followed mining until 1860. Then he engaged in farming in Salt Spring valley, where he remained six years. At the expiration of that time he came to San Andreas and began merchandising with Mr. Whitlock. In 1868 he sold out and was appointed Postmaster of San Andreas, which office he has held continuously ever since. During the war he served in the State militia.

Mr. Allen was married June 28, 1871, to Miss Lucy McDuffee, a native of Rochester, New Hampshire. Their children are: Soddie B., James B. and Louisa (twins), Hosea G., Jr., Maud S. and John. Socially Mr. Allen is an Odd Fellow; politically, a Republican. He is a man who stands high in the estimation of all who know him. His residence is on Main street, San Andreas.

THOMAS J. HARP was born in San Joaquin county, California, October 23, 1857, the oldest in a family of five children. His father, the Hon. T. D. Harp, State Senator, is a native of Overton county, Tennessee, and dates his arrival in California

in 1850. His mother, Elizabeth (Henderson) Harp, is also a native of Tennessee. Thomas J. was reared and educated in his native county, and has followed agricultural pursuits all his life. He is now superintending his father's farm, which consists of 1,800 acres and is located five miles south of Modesto. This is a stock and grain ranch, and under the efficient management of this enterprising young farmer is yielding large crops. It is considered one of the most productive and valuable farms in this section of the country.

Mr. Harp was united in marriage in Stanislaus county, September 1, 1879, with Miss Elma E. McCumber, a native of Wisconsin. They have two children, Lola M. and Joseph C.

Politically, Mr. Harp is allied with the Democratic party. He is connected with none of the secret orders, and finds but little time for political or other matters, his extensive ranch interests requiring his undivided attention. He is a most worthy citizen, and has the respect and esteem of all who know him.

W. H. STEFFLER, County Treasurer of Calaveras county, California, is a native of Germany. He was born in Württemberg in 1837, and is the only child of Henry and Frances (Brandecker) Steffler. From the age of six to fourteen years he attended school, and in 1852, when fifteen years old, came to the United States and located in New Orleans with his mother, who had preceded him to this country. For one year he clerked in a grocery store in New Orleans, and then was engaged as office boy in the St. Charles Hotel, that city, where he made money enough to come to California. He landed in San Francisco, via Nicaragua, May 27, 1855, and four days later went to Sacramento and became a waiter in a hotel. After remaining there two months he went to Mokelumne Hill, where he was second cook in a restaurant five months. He then began mining in Calaveras county, and continued at this for some thirteen years. Then he clerked in J. Bangs' store in San Andreas for about five years. At the end of that time he bought a ranch near San Andreas and engaged in farming. Later he peddled fruit, and mined for two years, when he engaged as clerk for Dasso & Tiscornia in San Andreas. Then he turned his attention to mining again, and is at present interested in the German Ridge mine near Altaville. In 1888 he was elected Treasurer of Calaveras county; in 1890 re-elected, and at present holds the office, being a trusted guardian of the county's funds.

Socially, he is an Odd Fellow; politically, a Republican. He enjoys as yet all that pertains to single-blessedness.

H. VOIGHT.—Though not a native of this country, the subject of this sketch is thoroughly Californian in his methods and in spirit. He was born at Brockum, Province of Hanover, Germany, September 13, 1863, his parents being William and Minnie (Meierrohl) Voight. He was reared at his native place, and in accord-

ance with the customs and regulations of the country attended the government schools between the ages of six and fourteen years. After completing this course, he started in life as a workman in the field of agriculture, which he followed there until he had reached the age of twenty-one years.

In 1884 he came to the United States, and, proceeding direct to California, brought up at Modesto. He has ever since been identified with Stanislaus county. In 1885 he rented from his uncle, Henry Voight, a ranch about six miles east of Modesto, which he cultivated for three years. During the six years following he handled a ranch about six miles distant from his present location. Since the fall of 1891 he has been in possession and control of 640 acres of the T. K. Beard place, where he now is. Mr. Voight devotes this land all to grain growing, to which it is well adapted. He is a thoroughly practical farmer, and has been doing business on his own account ever since attaining his majority.

Mr. Voight is not connected with any secret order. He was reared in the Lutheran Church, and is now a follower of that creed. He is unmarried.

CHRISTIAN NELSON, deceased, was a native of Norway, having been born at Drammen, twenty-eight miles from Christiania, on the 6th day of November, 1825. His parents were Neils and Kirsti (Sollös) Nelson. He was reared and educated in Norway, and spent his younger days at his father's home, who was the proprietor of flouring mills. In 1848, however, he left home and native country to come to America, first locating in this country at Buffalo, New York. From there he came to California, via New York and the Isthmus of Panama, in 1852, and went to Nevada City, where he began mining. He was at Gold Hill during the early days of the mining excitement at Virginia City, Nevada, and became interested in some of the most famous mining properties known to the history of the industry. He had large interests in Crown Point and Yellow Jacket, which he sold in 1861, selling his interest in Best and Belcher mines in 1864. In the spring of the latter year, he went to Silver Mountain, in Alpine county, pursuing his favorite vocation, that of mining, in which he was for a time successful. In the fall of 1867, bidding farewell to the mines with which he had been so long identified, he bought a settler's claim and took up land in Stanislaus county, where Mrs. Nelson now resides, amounting in all to 320 acres. In the spring of 1858 Mr. Nelson went to Norway on a visit to his father, and returned to California in the fall of the same year, with a younger brother.

He was married, March 27, 1862, to Miss Caroline Emilie Johannesen, a native of Christiania, Norway, and daughter of John and Marie (Tellc) Johannesen, the father a merchant baker by vocation. Her parents and their family came to America in 1852, sailing from Christiania to Quebec on the Argo, thence proceeding via the St. Lawrence to Buffalo, New York, where the father was most of the

time engaged in the ship yards. From there the parents came to California in 1868, locating at Stockton, thence removing to Sacramento, where the father died, August 28, 1891; the mother died February 14, 1885.

Mr. Nelson went East to be married, and after marriage brought his bride to California, via New York and Panama, landing at San Francisco from the steamer Sonora, after a trip of three weeks. The family first resided at Novada City, and later at Silver Mountain, while Mr. Nelson pursued his mining work. They had three children, John Neilphin, who resides at the home ranch with his mother; Henry Tracey, who died January 17, 1892; and Clara Emilie, who died September 9, 1873. Mr. Nelson died on the 4th of December, 1890. He was known and universally respected as an upright man. He was a Republican, politically, and as a citizen took an active interest in public affairs. Mrs. Nelson, who now manages the home place, is a lady of exceptional intelligence, and enjoys the esteem of the entire community.

J. F. BEAUSANG.—This well-known old settler of the Dry creek region, on the boundary between Stanislaus and Tuolumne counties, is a native of Sweden; the paternal grandfather, however, was a native of France. His farm is located on Dry creek, about three miles from La Grange, on the Knight's Ferry road. He has 1,800 acres of land, his house and the valley land being in Stanislaus and a part of the portion devoted to pasturage being in Tuolumne county.

One of the prominent features about Mr. Beausang's place, and one which requires especial recognition in a volume of this character, is the fact of its exceptional water and reservoir facilities. It has been estimated by competent authority that a dam about thirty feet high and only about fifty feet across would back the water up for a distance of half a mile to an average depth of eighteen feet and an average width of a quarter of a mile, thus confining millions of gallons of water and irrigating upward of 1,000 acres of land. The further fact is stated, on the most reliable authority, that, utilizing his own teams and scrapers, Mr. Beausang could build the dam at an additional expense of only $500. The water storage facilities here available are discernible, even to the unpracticed eye, at a glance, but such an experienced man as Mr. Barton, engineer of the great joint dam at La Grange, fully sustains these statements. Irrigation is the factor that is now working out the problem of success in Californian agriculture and horticulture, and such facts as these should be extensively known among those who are contemplating taking a hand in the future development of this region. Mr. Beausang himself is one of the old-time settlers along Dry creek, and is widely known as a reliable man and an estimable citizen.

SAMUEL G. GRUBAUGH, one of the go-ahead men of Stanislaus county, who is recognized as a thorough farmer, is a native of Ohio, born in Ashland county, May

12, 1854, his parents being G. W. and Melissa (Macomber) Grubaugh, both parents natives of Ohio. Grandfather Grubaugh, a native of Germany, settled in Ohio at an early day; he is now living in La Grange county, Indiana, having reached the advanced age of ninety-four years. When the subject of our sketch was eleven years of age his parents removed to La Grange county, Indiana, and there he was reared to young manhood. In 1873 he came to California, landing at Modesto on the 11th of December and soon obtained employment at farm work. In the fall of 1878 he began for himself by renting the Tulley ranch, about four miles north of Turlock, where he farmed 800 acres. In the spring of 1881 he rented 800 acres more where he is now located, on the road between Roberts' ferry and La Grange, also retaining the Tulley ranch. In the spring of 1884 he moved up to his present location, and the following fall gave up the Tulley place. He farms the entire 800 acres, but his average crop is 600 acres, as he makes a practice of devoting 200 acres to summer fallow, a practice followed by the best of farmers.

Mr. Grubaugh was married, in this county, November 27, 1881, to Miss Anna R. Rairden, a native of Maine. Two children have been born to them, both of whom are deceased, viz.: Herbert, and an unnamed infant. Mr. Grubaugh is a member of La Fayette Lodge, No. 65, I. O. O. F., La Grange, and is Conductor of the lodge. Politically he is a Republican. He is a frank, agreeable gentleman, and, on account of his business-like methods and his many estimable traits of character, enjoys the respect and esteem of all with whom he comes in contact.

WILLIAM C. PINGREE.—One of the best known among the old permanent settlers now residing in Stanislaus county, is this gentleman, familiarly known to his friends as "'Squire Pingree."

He is a native of New Hampshire, born at Plainfield, Sullivan county February 12, 1825, his parents being Andrew, Sr., and Abiah (Straw) Pingree. The father was born at Rowley, Massachusetts, February 17, 1775, and died March 25, 1846. By occupation he was a boot and shoe manufacturer. He was married in 1802, to Abiah Straw, who was born at Weare, New Hampshire, August 8, 1786, her father's Christian name being Israel, and her mother's maiden name Abiah Nelson. They lived in Weare, Springfield, Grantham, Meriden and Plainfield; removed to Kane county, Illinois, in October, 1838, settling at what is now known as Pingree grove, where Andrew Pingree followed farming. The children of Andrew and Abiah Pingree are as follows: Reverend Andrew Pingree, a prominent man, who died September 18, 1874; Abiah, wife of Mora Adams, died in 1838; Francis, deceased; Betsey, deceased; Sally, wife of Henry Ramer, DeKalb county, Illinois; Emily, who died about 1837; Daniel, a physician, now a resident and Mayor of Hico, Hamilton county, Texas; Betsy Noyes, wife of Otho W. Perkins, St. Charles, Kane county, Illinois; and William Cutler, the

youngest of the family and the subject of this sketch.

He was a boy of thirteen years when the family settled in Illinois, and was reared to manhood in Kane county, where he resided nntil 1852. In that year he crossed the plains to California in company with his brother, Doctor Daniel Pingree, who was captain and owner of the train with which they came, as well of the cattle and horses which they brought with them. They spent part of the winter in Carson valley, where they built a house, and in February, 1853, our subject and his brother, leaving their brother-in-law, H. C. Nelson, to look after the women of the party, and the stock, came down via Placerville, Sacramento (where they had a friend, T. W. Strowbridge), and Stockton to Chowchilla, their object being to select their ranches. On their route as they passed by the Martin place, in what is now Stanislaus county, they observed and admired the land where Mr. Pingree in now located. Turning back from Chowchilla, they settled here, and their families joined them in the fall. Doctor Daniel Pingree resided here until 1859, when he returned to Illinois, and from there went many years afterward to Texas, where he now resides, as previously mentioned.

'Squire Pingree has 1,280 acres in his home place, and another ranch, four miles northwest, containing 800 acres. He devotes his attention to farming and sheep-raising. He has served one term as Justice of the Peace, but is in no seuse an office-seeker or a politician.

William C. Pingree was married November 23, 1851, and brought his wife with him to California. His only child, Daniel Nevada Pingree, was born in Carson valley, November 23, 1852, and died December 17, 1867. He was a bright, promising boy, and his death was a heavy blow to the bereaved parents.

WILLIAM A. KELLY, M. D., was born in Centre county, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1818. His parents were John and Ann (Colwell) Kelly. The Doctor received his literary education at Meadville, Pennsylvania, and his medical education at the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1844. He began the practice of his profession near Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, in 1845, and continued there until 1849. He then started for California. Leaving New Orleans, he took steamer for Vera Cruz, thence overland to San Blas, and by steamer to San Francisco, where he landed July 7, 1849. He remained in the city only ten days, when he left for the mines at Murphy's, Calaveras county. Here he continued, off and on, till 1854, with a good degree of success. He then located in Angel's and engaged in the practice of medicine, and here he has continued, and has been very successful. For the past twenty years, with the exception of one year, Dr. Kelly has been Coroner and Public Administrator of Calaveras county.

In politics the Doctor is a Democrat. He was one of the first alcaldes at Murphy's.

Socially, he is a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and stands high in both orders. He was married in the city of San Francisco to Mrs. Elizabeth Laird. His residence is on Main street in the busy town of Angel's, where most of his professional life has been spent. As a physician and surgeon his skill is known far and wide, and as a pioneer and worthy citizen he has the respect of all who known him.

JOSEPH L. TURNER was born in the State of Missouri, December 30, 1838, and crossed the plains to California in 1853. Captain Nicholas Turner, one of the pioneers of 1848, is his father. A history of his life in detail would read more as a romance than a chronicle of events. He was born in Tennessee in 1802; served as a soldier in the Mexican war, and in 1848 crossed the plains to the Golden State, via the southern route. He was first engaged in mining in Mariposa county, and later he was interested in the live-stock trade near Stockton. The winter of 1851 he spent in Texas, and the following spring he went to Missouri; he did not tarry long there, however, but April 2, two years later, started again for the Pacific coast. He made the journey over land, and stopped at Virginia City where he made the first settlement of the Washoe valley; here he spent one winter, and in May, 1854, he reached Stockton. After a short residence there he went to Mariposa creek, two and a half miles east of Plainsburg, where he took up land and pitched a tent in which he lived. At this time the country was wild and thinly settled, and elk and antelope were plentiful. In 1856 Mr. Turner returned to Missouri, where he still owned considerable property, and the following spring he came back to California, bringing a drove of cattle. When near Salt Lake he was shot by the Mormons or Indians, and was seriously wounded; he was also robbed of all his livestock and the most of his money. During his life-time he led several different emigrant trains to California, and it was he who built the first wagon road in Tulare county. He was for many years engaged in the live-stock trade, and was one of the most successful men of Merced county; he owned a ranch covering nearly three thousand acres, which he managed with great ability. Captain Turner is now ninety years old. He was married in 1826 to Keziah McClure, a native of North Carolina, and they had the following named children: John F. R., deceased, Singleton V., Marion F., Effie S., wife of T. J. Anderson, Joseph L., Sophronia, wife of James Cunningham, Jonas L., deceased, and Nicholas N. The mother died April 7, 1890, having attained an advanced age.

Joseph L. Turner, the fifth born of this family, began life at the age of sixteen years. He was married July 27, 1859, to Miss Martha Welch, a daughter of P. V. Welch, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. He has been engaged in farming and the raising of live stock on the old home place near Plainsburg since 1856; he is energetic and enterprising, and his labors have met with a fair reward. He is well posted

upon the topics of the day, and takes an active interest in all progressive movements. Mr. and Mrs. Turner are the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living, namely: Benjamin C. H., J. L. Turner, Junior, Emily D., wife of Henry Crosby, Rebecca, wife of John Vetterly, Dovie, widow of Dr. H. W. Welch, Odie T., Willie C., and Walter S., who died at the age of sixteen years.

SAM CONWAY, the enterprising young liveryman of Modesto, has built up an extensive business in his line, and now enjoys a reputation second to none among traveling men and the public generally. Having a well equipped barn, with all necessary conveniences, the uniformly courteous treatment which he has accorded all customers has brought him a large patronage. Mr. Conway is a native of California, born at Sherlock creek, Mariposa county, on the 16th of April, 1864, his parents being John and Caroline Conway, the father a native of Indiana, and his mother of England. His father came to this State in the early days of mining, and followed that pursuit in Mariposa county. The mother died in 1868.

Our subject was the youngest of a family of three children. He was principally reared in Stanislaus county, attending the union district school. Thrown on his own resources at an early age, he has ever since made his own way in the world. His first occupation was farm work, which he followed until September, 1891, when he bought the livery barn in Modesto, which he now conducts, from Alfred Dunning. Here his practical training in early life has stood him in good stead, and he has made this business a success.

Mr. Conway was married in Modesto, on the 29th of September, 1886, to Miss Jennie Rinehart, a native of California, and daughter of J. F. Rinehart, an early comer to California, who had the usual experience of the Argonauts in the mines.

THOMAS H. LEGGETT, Postmaster at Merced, emigrated to California in 1858, and has been so closely identified with the history of certain portions of the State that his name is worthy of record in this volume. He is a native of Warren county, New York, January 20, 1840, and a son of Thomas A. Leggett. His father was a pioneer of 1849, who came via the Cape; for several years he was engaged in mining, and toward the latter part of his life he engaged in the raising of live stock. From 1873 to 1881 he was Justice of the Peace of Merced county. He died December 28, 1890, at the age of eighty-five years. He was married to Mary R. Powers, and to them were born four children. Thomas H. was educated in the common schools at Chester, Warren county, New York, and at the age of eighteen years he determined to seek his fortune in the Golden State. Accordingly, August 20, 1858, he embarked on the ship Grenada at New York city, and landed in San Francisco, September 21. He at once joined his

father near Stockton, and engaged with him in the live-stock and ferry business, which they conducted until 1864. The father then went to Orovillo, Butte county, and Thomas H. settled at La Grange, Stanislaus county; there he began butchering, and followed the same business at Hornitos, Mariposa county; he also lived at Dover, Merced county, and later embarked in the dairy business on Mariposa island in the San Joaquin river. He was clerk in a hotel at Modesto, and was afterward Peace Officer, and for two years was night watch.

In February, 1872, Mr. Leggett became a citizen of Merced county, where he has served as Peace Officer for nine years, and from 1881 to 1884 he was deputy Sheriff. He was then Constable, and held that office until he resigned to accept the appointment as Postmaster, December 11, 1890. He has discharged the duties of this office to the entire satisfaction of the patrons, and has conducted the business in the most careful and painstaking manner.

He was united in marriage June 26, 1866, to Mrs. Elizabeth Browning, and of this union four children have been born: Charles H., Carrie L., Florence G. and Katie G.

HENRY ATWOOD, commonly known as "Parson" Atwood, is one of the earliest and most successful mining men in Calaveras county. Following is a brief outline of his life:

Mr. Atwood was born in the city of Boston, March 15, 1819, son of Zerubbabel and Nancy (Craft) Atwood, natives of Massachusetts and of English origin. After finishing his education in the public schools, he commenced clerking in a dry-goods store, and later went into partnership with a Mr. Bacon as junior member of the firm of Bacon & Atwood. This firm did business from 1846 to 1849, when Mr. Atwood started for California on board the brig Tayloe, around Cape Horn, landing in San Francisco on the 13th of September, 1849. From there they "warped" up the Sacramento river to the capital, and made for Hangtown, where they began hunting gold. In 1850 he went to Todd's valley. There he discovered and named Indian cañon, and mined two summers—1850 and 1851—with good success.

In 1852 Mr. Atwood took a train of seventy-two mules to Mormon Station, in Carson valley, charging 50 cents a pound for the provisions he carried. The following year he returned to Placerville, intending to go back to Boston, but instead went to Mokolumne Hill and bought a hotel of John Haley. A year later it was burned down, and he erected in its stead a fine three-story stone building, and ran it as a hotel for ten years. It may truthfully be said here that no better hotel man ever catered to the public than "Parson" Atwood. After leaving the hotel business he became an owner in the famous copper mines at Campo Seco. In 1874 he took charge of the Big Tree Hotel, and conducted it till 1876, when he bought the hotel at Murphy's. The latter he ran until 1881, when he sold out to Harvey Blood, and came to San Andreas. Two

years later he became manager of the Holbrook House at Grass valley, continuing four years, since which time he has resided in San Andreas, engaged in mining operations. At present he is interested in some of the best mines in the county, among which is the Quartz Glen lode, located in Rich Gulch mining district.

Mr. Atwood is a man of splendid business ability, and has been very successful. He is now seventy-three years old, and as well preserved in body and intellect as a man of forty.

C. A. H. WARFIELD, the efficient Sheriff of Merced county, is a native of the State of Texas, born in Laman county, at Paris, February 24, 1845. His parents, Charles Alexander and Martha P. (Hamilton) Warfield, were natives of Maryland and Tennessee respectively. The former went to Texas in an early day, and was for a time Surveyor-General of the State; he also took an important part in politics, and during the late war served the Government very faithfully. He afterward came to California, and spent his last days at Chico, where he wrote for various publications throughout the State. C. A. H. Warfield was educated in the common schools of his native State until he was fifteen years of age. In 1861 he came to California overland, via Tucson and El Paso to Los Angeles; after his arrival in the State he spent four and a half years in Stockton, six months of which time he was with William P. Miller in his wagon factory. He also operated an express line up the river which extended up into the mountains. He was afterward employed by Henry Miller and Charles Lux, the cattle kings of California, with whom he remained until 1888, when he was elected Sheriff of Merced county. He is identified with the Republican party, but in his official capacity he has given satisfaction to all elements, discharging his duties with strict impartiality.

Mr. Warfield's marriage occurred in Merced, August 8, 1884, when he was united to Martha E. Cramer, a native of the Golden State, and a daughter of Dr. Cramer, one of Merced's pioneer physicians. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Warfield: Charles Henry and Jesse Alexander. Mr. Warfield is an esteemed member of La Grange Lodge, A. F. & A. M.

L. B. WALTHALL.—Among the citizens of Stanislaus county who have thoroughly identified themselves with her interests, the gentlemen whose name heads this sketch stands prominent, and a brief outline of his career, therefore, becomes an essential feature of the history of this community. Lawson B. Walthall was born at Columbus, Lowndes county, Mississippi, on the 11th of April, 1844, his parents being Madison and Elizabeth F. (Burfoot) Walthall. The Burfoots and Walthalls were an old Virginia family, their progenitors in this country having settled in the Old Dominion about 1720. The father of our subject was born in Charlotte county, Virginia, and was reared in that State. He became a tobacco manufac-

turer and conducted an extensive business at Richmond. He married Miss Elizabeth F. Burfoot, who was born at Manchester, Chesterfield county, Virginia. In 1834 he removed to Mississippi, and in 1849 went from that State to California to try his fortunes in the gold fields. His route took him through Texas, and through Durango in Mexico to Mazatlan, from which latter point he proceeded by sea to San Francisco. Arrived in California, he engaged in mining about Coloma on Feather river, and during the year spent there was very successful as a miner. About a year later he became a resident of the towns of San Jose and Sacramento, and speculated in real estate to a considerable extent. Being a man of much force of character and well informed in public affairs, he was chosen from San Jose as a member of the first Legislature of California, in the proceedings of which he took a prominent part, as well as in the work of several important committees. Going back to Mississippi he brought his family to California in 1851, and they landed at San Francisco on the 25th of May from the old steamer Columbus. He located in Stockton and was appointed the first Collector of the Port of Stockton, by President Millard Fillmore. He had a large practice in Stockton as a land attorney, and also served several terms there as Associate Justice of the Court of Sessions; he also carried on ranching in San Joaquin county, near Stockton. His accidental death occurred near that city on the 28th of September, 1868, having lost his wife some eight years previously.

L. B. Walthall, subject of this sketch, was but seven years of age when he came to California, and was reared to the age of fifteen years in San Joaquin county, where he began his education. He next attended the Baptist college at Richmond, Virginia, and was from there transferred to an uncle in North Carolina, where he attended the Beulah Male Institute for one year. Then the Civil war came on and he entered the Confederate service as a member of Company H., Third North Carolina Regiment, their Captain being A. M. Scales (afterward Governor of North Carolina). He was mustered into the service at Madison, in North Carolina, in April, 1861, and then proceeded to Garysburg, where the regiment was organized. The command went to Suffolk, where a couple of months' drilling ensued, then encamped for winter opposite Newport News, our subject being engaged during a great portion of the winter and early spring on special duty, surveying. The regiment reinforced Magruder early in April, 1862, and was in the retreat from Yorktown to the Chickahominy, taking part meanwhile in the engagement of Seven Pines and others. He took part in the operations of the command about the fortifications of Richmond, previous to his discharge in July, 1862. In 1863 he went to New York city, where he spent the winter, then returned to California, arriving there on the 1st of March, 1864. He remained on the home ranch, about seven miles east of Stockton, until December, 1866, when he came to Stanislaus county and engaged as clerk in the store of Covert & Company, at Tuolumne City.

Mr. Walthall describes this store as the busiest place he ever saw. Steamers brought goods right to the place, making it the source of supply for the settlers of all the outlying country, which was then rapidly settling up, and such were the demands upon the time of the store people that buyers were often compelled to wait throughout an entire day, and over night until the following day, in order to get waited on. He was engaged in the store until the 1st of February, 1870, and on the first of the following month assumed the duties of Clerk, Recorder and Auditor of Stanislaus county, at Knight's Ferry, having been chosen to the combined offices by the votes of the electors of the county at the preceding election. In October, 1871, he removed to Modesto, where the county seat was also moved, and here served out the balance of his term of office. In 1873, he with others organized the Farmers' Savings Bank of Stanislaus County, and served as its cashier until it was succeeded by the Modesto Bank, six years latter, remaining with the new intsitution but a short time until it got under headway. He has ever since been engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business at Modesto. In 1876 Mr. Walthall was elected to the Board of Supervisors of Stanislaus county, and served as an active member of the Board throughout all the succeeding fifteen years, with the exception of one term of two years. During this time many of the permanent public improvements of Stanislaus county were made, and he took a prominent part in all measures tending to the real advancement of the country's interests, being universally regarded by the people of the county as an able, efficient and conscientious public officer.

He has been twice married, first in September, 1869, to Miss Mary A. Covert, a native of Arkansas and daughter of H. K. Covert; she died in Modesto in June, 1872. By this marriage there were three children, all of whom are deceased. Mr. Walthall married his present wife April 11, 1877. She was formerly Miss Augusta W. Vass, a native of White county, Tennessee. They have five children, viz., Edward B., Hugh Lawson, Augusta Gracey, Elizabeth V., and Octavius A.

Mr. Walthall has taken an active part in the councils of the Democratic party of Stanislaus county, and attended the State convention of 1878 at Sacramento as a delegate. He is now a member of the County Central Committee. Socially, he is a Commandery Mason and Odd Fellow.

He assisted in organizing the first grange in the county, and in that more permanent and profitable association, the Grange Company of Modesto, a flourishing farmers' co-operative business institution.

MRS. EMMA FAGAN.—The lady with whose name we introduce this brief sketch is one of California's native daughters. She was born at Sonora, Tuolumne county, November 23, 1853, her parents being Isaac and Virginia (Gooch) Petty, both natives of Alabama, the former of French and the latter of German extraction.

Isaac Petty was a California pioneer of 1849, having crossed the plains to this State in that year. The following year he returned to the East, visiting the place of his nativity, where he married, after which he again came to California, locating in Tuolumne county. He followed mining and was well and favorably known in Tuolumne and surrounding counties up to the time of his death, which occurred November 23, 1872, his estimable wife having died September 20, 1863. They were the parents of five children, Emma being the second born. She was educated in Stanislaus county, and was joined in marriage at Modesto, December 22, 1875, with Francis Fagan, a native of Illinois. His parents were of Irish extraction and were formerly residents of Pennsylvania. After coming to California, Mr. Fagan followed the occupation of miner in Calaveras and adjoining counties for many years. Later, he became one of Stanislaus county's substantial and progressive farmers. He died February 24, 1891. The family consists of the mother and four children, namely: Cora A., Dollard F., Mary O. and Louisa H. The deceased were Frank P. and Henry. The former died January 2, 1883; the latter December 8, 1889.

Mrs. Fagan resides with her children on the homestead, situated twelve miles southeast of Oakdale, consisting of 400 acres, all of which is under a high state of cultivation, devoted to grain-growing and stock-raising. Aside from the family estate, she is also the owner of 320 acres, also devoted to the production of grain. Mrs. Fagan is a lady of culture and refinement. The neat and orderly appearance of the house and surroundings denotes the presence of a truly domestic and intelligent mind.

MOSES THORPE, one of the most venerable pioneers of California, was born in Southampton, Massachusetts, November 6, 1816, son of Abraham and Julia (Barnes) Thorpe. His ancestors were among those who founded New Haven Colony, he being of the eighth generation.

At the age of eighteen years Mr. Thorpe left home and went to sea, sailing from New Haven, Connecticut, to the West India islands, which occupation he followed as mate and master until he came to California, leaving New Haven in the barque Don Juan, November 4, 1849, and arriving at San Francisco, via Cape Horn, June 6, 1850. From there he went to Benicia and was employed in ballasting vessels. In March, 1851, he went to the mines; and mining, in connection with farming and stock-raising, he has followed for forty years. For fifteen years he worked the famous Thorpe mine, seven miles from San Andreas, a rich gold-bearing quartz. He owns a fine stock ranch of 480 acres, and keeps a good supply of horses and cattle.

Mr. Thorpe was married in 1836 to Miss Mary Rowley, a native of Massachusetts, and a daughter of Chester and Rispeh (Barnes) Rowley. Their children are Mary M., wife of Milton Stephens; Horace Edson, and Henry M., who is a partner with his father. Mr. and Mrs. Thorpe have celebrated their

"golden wedding," and have grandchildren and great-grandchildren in this county. Their children are all well settled in life and have interesting families.

Mr. Thorpe has served his district as Supervisor, and has always been an intelligent supporter of the Democratic party. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a charter member of Calaveras Lodge, No. 78, which was organized in his house at Fourth Crossing, in 1855, with twelve members.

D. D. DEMAREST, proprietor of the Altaville Foundry and Machine Shops, Angel's, California, was born in Bergen, New Jersey, September 15, 1824. His parents were David S. and Margaret (Durie) Demarest, and of their eleven children he was the third. The original Demarest family settled on Manhattan Island in 1852 with the French Huguenots.

The subject of our sketch left school at the age of eleven years, and went to work in the field, plowing. In 1842 he learned the trade of blacksmith, and worked at it till 1849, when he set out for California. He arrived in San Diego, this State, December, 1849; thence by steamer to San Francisco. On his trip to California he experienced many hardships and privations.

Mr. Demarest followed mining till 1859, when he took charge of a water ditch. In 1861 he bought the foundry property, which he has enlarged and improved, and is now able to make castings in brass and iron up to 1,200 pounds. He also has a blacksmith and horse-shoeing shop and a hardware store, the whole plant having cost him some $10,000. Recently, however, he let the shops to his son and Tom Fullen. His business has so increased lately that he has built a new machine shop, 30 x 60 feet, which will cast as high as four tons, and do machine work on a proportionately grander scale.

He was married in 1861, to Salina Ward, a native of Indiana and a daughter of John Ward, a pioneer of California. Their children are David, Clarence and Lillie.

Socially, Mr. Demarest is an Odd Fellow and a Mason.

J. W. DUNLAP, Supervisor of township No. 1, Stanislaus county, California, is one of the native sons of the far-famed golden West.

He was born in Stanislaus county, November 9, 1857. His father, John Dunlap, a native of Tennessee, and of Scotch extraction, crossed the plains to California in 1857. His mother, whose maiden name was Sarah A. Bartlett, was a native of Missouri. She died in 1881. To this worthy couple were born four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second. His education was received in Tuolumne county, where for some years he engaged in stock-raising. He returned to Stanislaus county in 1880, and established himself in the butchering business at Oakdale, which he conducted until recently. At the present writing he is connected with real-estate transactions, doing business under the firm name of Bell & Dunlap, attorneys at

law, real-estate dealers, abstract writers, notary public, etc. As a side issue, Mr. Dunlap makes a specialty of raising blooded stock. Among his thoroughbred horses are found some of the most noted cross stock in this section of the State, namely: Joe Daniels and Mondays, imported, Patison, Cyclone, Kelpie, Echo and Lodi, besides other noted fast stock.

Mr. Dunlap was elected county Supervisor in 1888, and now fills that important office. He is a stanch Republican and takes an active part in political matters. Socially, he affiliates with the Oakdale Parlor, N. S. G. W., of which he is Secretary. Although a young man in years, he is one thoroughly posted in regard to the wants and needs of the county, and is ever ready to aid and encourage all public enterprises which tend to advance its welfare.

He was united in marriage at Knight's Ferry, October 15, 1889, with Miss Florence V. Barns, a native of California. They have one daughter, Eva V.

G. REYNOLDS, proprietor of the Pioneer Lumber Yard, Oakdale, California, dates his arrival on this coast in 1853.

Mr. Reynolds is a native of Martinsburg, Pike county, Illinois, born December 29, 1835. He was reared and educated in his native State, and at the age of eighteen years crossed the plains via the old emigrant route to Lane county, Oregon. The following year he came to California, where for two years he was engaged in packing to the mines, except a short time devoted to practical mining. He returned to Illinois, via Panama, and was at Panama during the riot of 1856. During the Pike's Peak excitement of 1859, he again turned his face westward, and after a brief stay at Denver, returned to Illinois. He crossed the plains again with an ox team in 1861, since which time he has been a permanent resident of Stanislaus county, California, and herefor a time he was engaged in practical farming. He is the owner of 482 acres of fine farming land, situated seven miles southeast of Oakdale. Since 1887 Mr. Reynolds has been engaged in the building operations, having erected one Presbyterian and one Free Methodist Church in Oakdale, the Stanislaus Academy of the same place, and various residences and other buildings throughout the county. His lumber yard, located directly on the railroad, although not a large one, contains a good stock of general building material.

The parents of Mr. Reynolds were Irven and Nancy A. (Browning) Reynolds, both natives of Bourbon county, Kentucky. The former died in 1871. The latter resides with her son. Mr. Reynolds has been twice married. In Illinois, in 1857, he espoused Miss Mary Wagner, of Illinois, who died January 11, 1865. This union resulted in the birth of four children, viz.: Mattie, the eldest, who died in 1876; Marion, Elizabeth and William, still living. Mr. Reynolds' second marriage was consummated at Modesto, May 4, 1873, with Mrs. Albina S. Philbrick, *nee* Grant. They have three children: Mary, Florence

and Nancy. Mrs. Reynolds has by her former marriage two children living and three deceased.

Politically, Mr. Reynolds is a stanch Democrat. Socially, he affiliates with the F. & A. M., Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, and with the Eastern Star, Yosemite Chapter, No. 98. Of the latter organization Mrs. Reynolds is also a member. The ancestors on both sides came of a long-lived and prolific race.

M. FAURE, a prominent business man of Oakdale, California, is one of the old and highly respected citizens of Stanislaus county.

Mr. Faure is a native of France, born January 30, 1830. He is the sixth in a family of eight children born to Piere Faure and Parline Victaire (Pefroid) Faure, both natives of France. His father died in 1849. The subject of our sketch was reared and received his schooling in his native country, and for a few years followed a seafaring life. He came to San Francisco in 1849, and in the same year visited Mexico, where he remained a few months. Returning to California, he stopped at San José, and subsequently worked in the mines of New Almaden for a short time; thence to Sonora, Tuolumne county, where he engaged in active mining for many years, meeting with fair success. He also engaged in merchandising in Calaveras and Tuolumne counties. Mr. Faure had the misfortune to be one of the Fraser river victims of 1858, this venture having swept away his entire collection of the precious metal. He left Tuolumne county in 1868; in 1869–'72 he engaged in farming and gardening; returned to Tuolumne county. In 1874 he moved to Waterford, where next year he engaged in general merchandise. In 1878 he was appointed Postmaster. As his business increased rapidly he was compelled to build a large house. In 1880 he employed a man to make brick, and by September he had 20,000 brick. He employed two masons and one helper, and built a house 25 x 75 feet, and which afforded all the store room necessary for his business. In 1883 he sold out half his property, for $2,500. In 1885 he came to the city of Oakdale, engaging in the grocery business. Two years later he again sold out, and is now doing a grain, coal and general commission business. Mr. Faure still owns twenty-eight acres of property at Waterford, which embraces the old town plat of that now flourishing village.

He became an American citizen in 1854; is allied with the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in local affairs.

JUDGE A. H. COULTER, of San Andreas, California, is a gentlemen of Southern birth, the State of his nativity being North Carolina, and the date 1827. His parents, David and Catharine (Shinn) Coulter were both natives of North Carolina, his father being of Swiss origin, his mother of English descent.

Judge Coulter received a good common-school education, and in 1849 crossed the plains to California. He first located in No-

vada City, when there was only one house at that place. There he mined until 1850, when he went north to Slate creek, on Yuba river; thence to Big Oak Flat, via Marysville, Sacramento and Stockton, and mined till March 20, 1851. He then took a trip back home, making the journey by water. Leaving San Francisco April 2, 1851, he landed in New Orleans on the 6th of May. He then taught school in Arkansas, and studied medicine, intending to become a doctor. In the fall of 1851 he married and settled at Russellville, Arkansas, where he engaged in the drug business. In 1855 he sold out and prepared to come back to California. After losing all he had, he taught school a year, and it was not until January 20, 1856, that he started for this State. March 1 he arrived safe in Amador county. From there he went to Volcano, and for a year he mined at Russell's Hill. In March, 1857, he came to Calaveras county, and began mining at Dry creek. Here he continued until 1862, when he went to El Dorado, near Sheep Ranch, and mined till 1868. He then located in San Andreas, where he has lived ever since.

In 1873 he was a teacher in the public schools at Salt Springs Valley. Then he taught at Douglas Flat for two years, and at Railroad Flat four years. In 1874 he began surveying, and in 1882 was elected County Surveyor of Calaveras county. In 1884 he was appointed United States deputy surveyor, and has held the office ever since. In 1863 he was elected Justice of the Peace at El Dorado, and served three terms. In 1866 he was elected Supervisor of his district, and served till 1872. Judge Coulter is a fair scholar, not only in English, but in Latin and mathematics.

He was married in Arkansas, as above stated, the lady of his choice being Martha Shinn, a native of North Carolina. By her he has the following named children: Mary Louisa, wife of Lieutenant-Governor J. B. Reddick; Martha Catharine, wife of N. C. Hanscom; W. S., Deputy County Clerk of Calaveras county; and Charles B., besides four that are dead.

Judge Coulter is a highly respected citizen of the county, and a man well known to all the old California pioneers.

GEORGE T. McCABE, Postmaster and general merchant of Knight's Ferry, Stanislaus county, California, was born at Driftwood, Cameron county, Pennsylvania, February 6, 1858, his parents being Asa and Nancy (Sullivan) McCabe, the father a native of Nova Scotia and the mother of Ireland. He was reared and educated in his native place, and began mercantile life there as a clerk with O. J. Spafford, after changing to the employ of D. J. McDonald, and later to J. O. Brookbank & Co. He removed from there to Johnstown in the spring of 1880, and there learned the mechanic's trade in the Cambria Iron Works. In 1883 he went to Pittsburg and entered the employ of the Union Switch and Signal Company, a branch of the Westinghouse Company. While here he assisted George Westinghouse, the inventor of the celebrated air-brake and other mechanical as well as electrical appliances,

with some of his experimental work. In 1884 he came to California, locating at Knight's Ferry, and in 1885 embarked in the general mercantile business. He is the principal merchant of Knight's Ferry.

Mr. McCabe was married September 16, 1888, to Miss Kitty S. Parker, a native of California. They have two children, namely: Velma B. and Asa D. He is a Republican politically, and socially is a member of the Stanislaus Lodge, No. 170, I. O. O. F., Knight's Ferry. He is agent for Wells, Fargo & Co.; has been Postmaster since 1890, Notary Public since 1888, and Justice of the Peace since January, 1890.

GEORGE T. BERTOLACCI.—This gentleman is proprietor of the Oakdale Drug Store, one of the leading business places of the town. The store was started by R. W. Hathaway in January, 1878, and was the first drug store in Oakdale. The first proprietor was succeeded February 18, 1888, by George T. Bertolacci, who removed to his present handsome and spacious quarters in the Sproul Building, January 1, 1890.

Mr. Bertolacci is a native of Tuolumne county, California, born at Columbia May 7, 1856, his parents being Sebastian and Frances Bertolacci.

George T. Bertolacci, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of San Francisco and at Columbia College, New York, attending the latter institution three years.

He was married at Everett, Massachusetts, near Boston, November 29, 1889, to Miss Augusta Lane, daughter of Commander Lane, of the United States Navy. They have two children, Genevieve and Ricardo Sebastian.

Mr. Bertolacci is a member of Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F. & A. M.; of Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F., and of Oakdale Parlor, No. 142, N. S. G. W. Politically he is a Republican.

T. M. LANE, Superintendent of the Madison Quartz Mine, Angel's, California, is a native of Missouri, and was born in 1848. His father, Thomas W. Lane, a native of Virginia, died at the age of eighty-four years. In 1852 the Lane family crossed the plains to California, and here, when a boy, Mr. Lane began mining. He then learned the drug business and set up a drug store in Knight's Ferry, Stanislaus county. Later, he was engaged in the same at Modesto. In 1882 he again embarked in mining operations, which he has followed ever since.

In 1879 Mr. Lane was united in marriage with Miss Eva Gillespie Davis, a native of Tuolumne county, California, and a daughter of Dr. Davis. Their children are William Franklin, Ina and Andrew Bradley. Socially, he is a member of the A. O. U. W., and of the Knights of Honor.

The Madison mine, of which Mr. Lane is superintendent, is owned by A. J. and T. M. Lane, and is situated half a mile south of Angel's. It was discovered and worked thirty years ago, but was abandoned for a

time. They now have a tunnel 500 feet long and a shaft 200 feet deep. The plant consists of a twenty-stamp mill, and cost some $10,000. Its capacity is fifty tons a day.

WILLIAM C. CLAXTON, the genial proprietor of the Blue Wing Saloon, Angel's, California, dates his birth in Yarmouth, England, February 28, 1832. His parents were William C. and Sarah Claxton. At the age of thirteen years he went to sea as a cabin boy, and continued on the deep till 1852, being then an able seaman.

In 1852 Mr. Claxton came to California, and was engaged in mining, with good success, till 1862. That year he enlisted in Company H, California Volunteers, Eighth Regiment, for three years' service. He was mustered out at Fort Point in 1865. After this he mined at Angel's till 1868, when he met with an accident which disabled him from active work. A year later he established the Blue Wing Saloon.

Mr. Claxton is a man well informed, and is recognized as one of the best authorities in regard to mining interests.

JOHN HEINSDORFF was born in Germany in 1823, and is the youngest of the seven children of Peter and Kate Heinsdorff. From his native country he came to Quebec, then to the United States, and after two years spent in New York, came in 1849 to California, making the journey hither via the Isthmus route. By trade he is a baker. For a while he worked in Stockton, after which he mined a year. In 1850 he set up a bakery and store at Mokelumne Hill. In 1851 he moved to Murphy's and followed the same business till 1855, when he turned his attention to mining again. In 1860 he bought a ranch near Murphy's, and has since been engaged in the manufacture of wines and brandies. He owns a fine tract of 170 acres of land, devoted to a vineyard and fruit of all kinds. In the early mining days he furnished the first milk to the camp, at $3 a gallon.

Mr. Heinsdorff was married in 1858 to Miss Mary Hanselt, a native of Germany. They have three children: Joseph, Barbara, wife of William Jenkins, and Mary, wife of B. L. Weymouth, of San Francisco. He is a highly respected citizen, affiliates with the Republican party, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

CHARLES W. AUSTIN.—Among the substantial and enterprising farmers of Stanislaus county, California, mention should be made of the above named gentleman.

Mr. Austin is located near Oakdale, on the property of A. C. Paulsell, of San Francisco. This tract consists of 2,250 acres, some 1,700 acres of which are devoted to grain raising exclusively, the rest being grazing land. He employs from three to four farm hands the year round, and during harvest time increases that number.

Mr. Austin is one of the sturdy sons of California, and dates his birth in San Joaquin county, January 14, 1863. He was reared to manhood in his native county, receiving his education in the public schools, completing the same in the Stockton Business College, of which he is a graduate with the class of 1882. His parents were Daniel S. and Mary E. (Downing) Austin. The former, a native of New York, crossed the plains to the Golden State in 1850, and was for many years engaged in mining pursuits. The latter is a native of Illinois. They had six children, three of whom are dead. Charles W., the second born, followed farming several years in San Joaquin county, and in 1888 came to Stanislaus county and took charge of the farm as above stated.

In political matters he is a staunch and active Republican. He is an active member of the Native Sons of the Golden West, Parlor No. 142, and also of the I. O. O. F., No. 228, of Oakdale; has passed the chairs in both orders.

JOHN COOLEY was born in Sweden in 1832. His father occupied the position of Fiscal for thirty-five years, a civil office under the Government. He had five children, to all of whom he gave a good academical education. John was with his father in the office until 1853, when he left his native soil to seek his fortune in the "Land of the Free." His objective point was New Albany, Indiana. From there he traveled extensively for a year, and spent all the money he had except a few hundred dollars. Finding himself at Winterset, Madison county, Iowa, with no very visible means of support, he concluded to learn the shoemaker's trade, which he did.

In 1858 Mr. Cooley set out overland for Pike's Peak, but came to California instead, and located in Tuolumne county, where he mined till 1861, when he went to Murphy's and followed his trade till 1866. He then went to Copperopolis, thence to Robinson's Ferry, and in February, 1867, to Angel's. He had during this time lost several thousand dollars in mining and prospecting, and decided to set up a shop and again go to work at his trade.

Mr. Cooley was married in 1871 to Christinia Ratz, a native of Germany. She was a widow, and has three sons, Fred, Ernest and Ferdinand.

Mr. Cooley is an intelligent Republican in politics, and served as Constable and Collector from 1876 to 1878, was deputy Sheriff two years under B. F. Hawes, and is now Justice of the Peace. His residence is on Bush street in the busy town of Angel's.

WILLIAM CASEY was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, January 22, 1839. His parents were Michael and Catharine (Griffin) Casey, both natives of Ireland. They came to the United States in 1823, and were well-to-do farmers in the East. In 1861 Mr. Casey came to California,

via Panama, and, like all the early arrivals on this coast, engaged in mining. He followed mining with varied success for twelve years. In 1872 he came to San Andreas and established himself in the saloon business on Main street, where he still continues. In 1884 he was nominated by the Republican party as Sheriff of Calaveras county, but was defeated by Benjamin K. Thorn.

He was married in 1861 to Miss Alice Power, a native of Massachusetts. Following are the names of the children born to them: Edward, Kate, William, John, Alice, James, Richard and Margaret (twins), and Robert and Philip S., deceased. Socially Mr. Casey is a Free and Accepted Mason. P. M. of Calaveras Lodge No. 78; also a member of A. O. U. W., Charity Lodge, No. 148, to which lodge he gave the name in 1879.

JOHN W. McHUGH, one of the respected and substantial citizens of eastern Stanislaus, California, is a native of county Galway, Ireland, born June 22, 1858, his parents being William and Margaret (Gilligan) McHugh. He was reared in his native country, and in 1878 came to the United States and proceeded to California. Arriving at San Francisco, he went, after a brief stay in the city, to Menlo Park, and there he was employed on the magnificent Flood property, the finest improved place in California. After six or seven months spent there, he went to San Joaquin county and entered the employ of W. O. Robinson, for whom he worked about three years and a half. He next rented land in Stanislaus county, near the Twenty-six Mile house, and about seven or eight miles from Oakdale, on the Stockton road. After five years there he bought 160 acres of land where he now lives, two miles south of Oakdale, and on this he has made all the improvements. During the time he has been located here he has also farmed a quarter section adjoining his own place, renting it from the owner, and this place he has also recently purchased, giving him 320 acres of productive land. His place is devoted to grain for the most part, and about his residence he has a small orchard.

Mr. McHugh was married, October 16, 1882, to Miss Mary Devine, a native of San Francisco. They have five children, namely: Maggie, Frank, Julia, William and John. Mr. McHugh is a member of the Oakdale Lodge, A. O. U. W. Politically, he is a Democrat.

GEORGE GREIERSEN.—The gentleman whose name heads this notice is one of Oakdale's prominent and substantial merchants. His business was established in this beautiful and flourishing city under the present firm style, George Greiersen & Co., in 1880. This firm carries the largest and most complete stock of general merchandise in the city, and is perhaps second to none in the county, their business extending into Tuolumne and the surrounding counties.

Mr. Greiersen is a native of Denmark, and dates his birth near Copenhagen, July 9, 1834. In that country he was reared and educated. He is the oldor of two children born to Jens P. and Catherine (Sorensen) Greiersen, the parents being natives of Denmark. The mother died in 1890, at the ripe old age of ninety-three years. The father died about twenty years ago. George Greiersen entered the Danish navy when in his 'toens, and served an apprenticeship at ship construction. A few years later he came to America. After remaining a short time in the city of San Francisco, he engaged in mining at Mokelumne Hill, Calavoras county. Not being successful in that enterprise, he returned to Benicia, and was for a time employed in ship repairing for the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. He next located at Cordelia, where he was one of the first to build a home. While residing here he built a sloop, which he christened Cordelia, and freighted on the river for a time. His sloop was subsequently wrecked near Vallejo. His next employment was that of clerk in a mercantile house in Millerton, Fresno county, from 1856 to 1859. In the latter year he purchased the business of his employer, and conducted a thriving trade until 1868. At that time he sold out and returned to Europe, the object of his visit there being to establish a market for California wines. This, however, was a failure, and financial loss to him. In 1879 he returned to America, and located at Oakdale the following year, where he has since conducted a flourishing trade and is one of the most enterprising citizens of the county. Mr. Greiersen was at one time Postmaster at Millerton, Fresno county, and was also county Treasurer by appointment to fill an unexpired term.

He was married in 1862 to Miss Anna Jensen, also a native of Denmark. They have three children living and one deceased. The names of the living are Francisca, Catherine and Anna.

Mr. Greiersen was naturalized in 1858. He is a member of no secret society, but is connected with the Fire Department at Oakdale; is a stanch Republican, although not active in political matters. He owns residence property in Oakdale, and is one of the worthy and respected citizens of the town.

HENRY THOMAS, one of Murphy's pioneers and influential citizens, is an Englishman, born in 1828, son of John and Grace (Symons) Thomas. He was educated in the common schools. In 1849 he came to the United States and located at Danville, Pennsylvania. There he mined for a short time, after which he went to the copper mines of Lake Superior. In 1854 he came to California, and for thirty years mined almost continuously, not, however, as a laborer, but as a prospector, employing a great many men to work what he as an experienced miner had discovered. He has been very successful in all his mining operations, and is perhaps as good authority on mining industries as any man in Calaveras county. He has recently gone into the saloon

business in Murphy's, and is regarded by all who know him as an upright, honest citizen.

He was married in England, in 1848, to Miss Caroline Woolcock. Their only child, Elizabeth, is the wife of John Cook, and resides in the old country. Mrs. Thomas departed this life in 1861, and Mr. Thomas has never married again. He is a prominent Odd Fellow, and a citizen whom everybody respects.

C. H. THRELFALL.—Among the successful and popular merchants of Central California, none are more worthy of mention in this volume than the above named gentleman. He began business at Oakdale, in company with E. L. Barkis, in 1890, under the firm style of Threlfall & Barkis; and although they have been in business here but a brief time they have met with marked success, having established a trade and reputation that might well be envied by much older houses. They carry a full line of general merchandise of all kinds. Anything from a common sewing needle to a threshing machine can be purchased at their establishment. They have recently opened a branch store at Waterford, a prosperous and flourishing town near Oakdale, and here they also carry a good assortment of general merchandise, and are doing a business that extends far into the interior of the country.

Mr. Threlfall, whose name heads this biography, is a native of Alameda county, California, born October 5, 1862. He received a thorough education in the public schools of the county, and later took a complete business course at the Pacific Business College, San Francisco, graduating in 1881. His parents are Richard and Hellen (Rix) Threlfall. The former, a native of Illinois, came to California via the Isthmus of Panama in 1852. Mrs. Threlfall is a native of New Hampshire. To them were born four children, our subject being the oldest.

After completing his education Mr. Threlfall turned his attention to practical farming, and followed that calling until 1890, when he established himself in business as above mentioned. Richard Threlfall, his father, now a resident of Irvington, Alameda county, is the owner of 8,000 acres of choice farming land, located six miles northwest of Oakdale, nearly all of this large tract being utilized as a grain and stock ranch. Among the stock found on this place are horses of the Norman breed. The land is highly cultivated, and under the efficient management of the subject of our sketch produces large crops and is becoming more valuable each year.

Mr. Threlfall is unmarried. He is a true gentleman and a thorough business man. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in local affairs.

OTTO DOLLING, proprietor of Angel's Hotel, Angel's, California, was born in Holstein, Germany, in 1849, son of Victor Dolling. At the proper age he learned the cooper trade, and in 1869 came to California and located at Knight's Ferry, Stanis-

laus eonnty. Here he continued, off and on, till 1885, mining and prospecting in different localities. He owns some valuable quartz claims, among which are the Claud mine, the Black Oak mine, and the Gold Valley mine, all in Calaveras county. He is also a partner with his brother in a ranch of 1,040 acres at Spokane Falls, Washington. In 1888 he bought the Angel's Hotel of George C. Tryan, and this establishment he has renovated and improved till it is one of the best appointed hotels in the mountains. He spares no pains for the comfort and convenience of his guests, and his ability as a host is well known to tho traveling public.

In 1886 he married Miss Mary Stickle, a daughter of George Stickle, the pioneer merchant of Angel's. They have one daughter, Zillah Elinne.

Mr. Dolling is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Bear Mountain Lodge, No. 76.

LEWIS LEE, M. D.—Among the late additions to the ranks of the medical fraternity of Stanislaus county, is the gentleman with whose name this article commences.

Although a recent arrival, his attainments in the line of his professional duties have already won for him a high standing among the physicians of the county, as well as among the people of Oakdale and its vicinity, the scene of his present labors.

Dr. Lee is a native of England, born in the metropolis of the world, April 17, 1854. He was reared in his native city, and graduated at Oxford with the class of 1874. Immediately following his graduation he began the study of medicine and surgery, attending lectures at the College of Surgeons, London, completing his course, and receiving his diploma from that institution in 1880. Soon after this he came to America, and for one year practiced his profession in New York; thence to St. Louis, Missouri, where he again availed himself of a thorough course of lectures in the Eclectic College of that city.

He practiced some three years in St. Louis, and in 1886 came to California. After traveling about the State, visiting the prominent medical institutions, he temporarily located at San Francisco, and later took up his abode in the city of Oakland, where he practiced until recently. He is now permanently located at Oakdale, and here he has already established a growing and lucrative practice.

A. J. MATTESON, of Murphy's, California, is a pioneer of the pioneers, having landed in San Francisco August 28, 1849.

Mr. Matteson dates his birth in the Empire State, in Oneida county, July 27, 1826. His father, Jesse Matteson, was a prominent man, and an extensive lumber dealer. In his youth the subject of our sketch learned civil engineering, taking a special course at Norwich University. After this he was an engineer on the Rome and Oswego plank road. In 1848 he built two plank roads out of the city of Utica, New York.

February 7, 1849, he took passage for California, around the Horn, landing in San Francisco as above stated. If all the events of this wonderful voyage could be recited, they would form in themselves a large and highly interesting volume. Mr. Matteson can tell many interesting incidents of early times, and it is a great treat to sit and listen to his narratives. He paid $25 for his passage from San Francisco to Stockton, and it took seven days to make the trip. There he contracted with an ox-driver to take him to Murphy's, and agreed to pay twelve and a half cents a pound freight for the provisions he took. This trip also consumed seven days. At Murphy's he prospected one day and the next day went to Angel's, pitching his tent where Chinatown is now located. No one was living there at that time. He spent two months there engaged in mining, and averaged eighteen ounces a day. The company then broke up. He mined two years with fair success.

In 1852 Mr. Matteson began staging from Murphy's to Douglas Springs, with J. C. Hughes. January 4, 1854, he bought the stables at Murphy's and has been in the livery and stage business ever since. He had the first mail contract to Carson Valley, Nevada; also ran a stage from Milton to Yo Semite Valley and Calaveras Big Trees, and from Milton to Bodie, Mono county. He has all this time been interested in mining operations, and has been fairly successful.

Of his private life, it may be said he was married in 1863 to Ada L. Cory, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Parkis Cory, a pioneer to California in 1850. Their children are Ida May, wife of W. R. Senter; Ada Beatrice, who died November 25, 1890, aged twenty-six years; and Willie H., Ernest T., and Jessie V.

JOSEPH F. STUART.—The part taken by the Stuart family (father and two sons) in the development of the fruit interests of Stanislaus county, California, during the last few years, is so important that it demands special notice and is therefore referred to in the portion of this volume devoted to general history. Some special mention of these gentlemen becomes of general interest on account of their connection with the county's advancement, however, and we present the following sketch of Joseph F. Stuart.

Joseph F. Stuart was born in Silverville, Solano county, California, October 20, 1864, his parents being Daniel S. and Lydia H. (Philpot) Stuart. He was reared in Solano county, and educated in the schools of Dixon and at Napa College, Napa, California. His education completed, he remained at the Solano county home one year, and then spent about a year with his brother, A. V. Stuart, on the wheat ranch located about six or seven miles east of Oakdale, Stanislaus county. He then went to Rio Vista, Solano county, where his father had a ranch, and, on account of the latter's illness, the management of affairs there devolved on him. Then his father sold this ranch, and Joseph went back to the home place at Dixon, but after two or three weeks there he again came to Stanislaus county

(1887), and rented land belonging to other members of the family. In 1890 he bought twenty-five acres lying along the Stanislaus river and in the vicinity of Oakdale. He has since planted it all, except three acres, to fruit, the varieties being peaches, apricots and prunes principally, with a few Muscat and Tokay grapes. He also conducts a nursery business, and in the season of 1892 placed 3,000 salable trees on the market. He is now maintaining a nursery stock one acre in extent, on his land under the bluff of the Stanislaus. This land is splendidly adapted to fruit, and this fact, together with the Stuart reputation in the fruit and nursery business already established, has not a little to do with the success encountered. It may also be said in this connection that Mr. Stuart, with his brother A. V., assisted in making the first start in fruit-tree planting, on a scale worthy of mention, in the territory tributary to Oakdale.

Mr. Stuart was married in this county, October 9, 1889, to Miss Jennie E. Mann, a native of this State, born in Solano county, and daughter of D. L. Mann, who is now a resident of Stanislaus county, living about a mile and a half south of Oakdale. Mr. and Mrs. Stuart have two children, Arthur and Ernest.

ADAM KEILBAR, of the firm of Rufe & Keilbar, proprietors of the Murphy's Meat Market, Murphy's, California, is a native of Germany, born in 1837. His parents, Jacob and Amelia Keilbar, had a family of eight children, he being the fourth born. At the proper age he learned the trade of a miller. In 1856 he came to the United States and located in Milwaukee, where he was employed in the railroad depot for two years, and in 1858 he came to California. His first work here was in a butcher shop in Vallecita. He has been interested in mining also, and is one of the substantial citizens of Calaveras county.

He was married in 1868, to Miss Bessie Thompson, a native of Long Island, and a daughter of John Thompson, a pioneer of 1850, well known in Murphy's as a stonemason. Following are the names of their children: Minnie, Ida, Effie, Olive, Theodore, Alice, Florence, Leland and Clarence.

WILLIAM OLIFFE SWENSON, attorney at law, San Andreas, California, was born in Wilmington, Delaware, January 8, 1825, and is the oldest son of William Oliffe and Martha (Radcliff) Swenson. At the age of fourteen years he left home and went to Texas, and from there went on an exploring expedition, in 1845, with Colonel Jack Hayes. After his return he went into the Mexican war, in Company K, with Hayes' Texas Mounted Volunteers, and served through the war. Then he went to New Orleans, and while there voted for General Taylor for President. From that city he went back to Texas, and in 1849 journeyed overland through Mexico to Mazatlan. At Durango, Mexico, he engaged with the

Government to fight the Apaches, under Captain Box. They were paid $250 each for every scalp, and he reports having made considerable money. After this he shipped in the bark Diana, at Mazatlan, for San Francisco, landing in November, 1849; thence to the mines in Tuolumne county, where he was very successful for some three years. He came to San Andreas in 1852, and has lived here over since. He is still interested in the Garden Gravel mine, near San Andreas.

In 1868 Mr. Swenson began reading law with Colonel W. J. Gatewood. He was subsequently elected a Justice of the Peace, and was admitted to the bar in 1872. May 4, 1874, he was appointed Court Commissioner of the Eleventh District.

He was married in 1852, to Ramona Quijade, a native of Santa Barbara, California. The children born to them are as follows: Martha, wife of J. C. Sebrean; William George, Alfred, Andrew Johnson, Alice, wife of Thomas Foreman; Ellen and Emma.

H. R. SCHELL, who is now in control of the wine business of the celebrated Red Mountain Vineyard, a history of which is given elsewhere in this volume, was born at Lyons Falls, Lewis county, New York, June 3, 1846, his parents being Adam and Charlotta (Sherburn) Schell, the former a native of Lyons, the latter of Sharon Springs, Saratoga county, and both of old New York families.

Our subject was reared at his native place, and at the age of sixteen years offered his services to his country in defense of the old flag. He was mustered into Battery H, First New York Light Artillery, Captain Charles E. Mink, of Albany, September 23, 1861, at Elmira, and proceeded to Camp Barry, Washington, District of Columbia, where they were equipped, and from there went to the front to join McClellan, being assigned to the Fourth Army Corps, under General E. D. Keys. They first saw battle at Williamsburg, just after the evacuation of Yorktown. After this they proceeded rapidly from battle to battle, taking part in many of the hardest and most important engagements of the war. Among these may be mentioned the following: Chickahominy, Seven Pines, where he fired the first gun; Seven Days' Retreat from Richmond, including Malvern Hill and the fight in which General Fitzhugh Lee was captured in the outworks of Richmond; then he rejoined the Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg, just after the battle, and was attached to the First Army Corps; Mine Run, under Meade; then the First and Fifth Army Corps were consolidated into the Fifth and Second, Battery H was assigned to the Fifth Army Corps; this was in the winter of 1863; Spottsylvania, Bethesda Church, Crossing of North Anna river, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Weldon railroad, Peebleo's farm, Hatcher's Run, Five Forks, being detached and under command of Sheridan, who relieved Warren; Farmville, and finally at the surrender at Appomatox Court House. After the surrender of Lee the command marched to Washington, and there took part in the grand review, the greatest sight ever wit-

nessed in the Western Hemisphere. They were mustered out at Elmira, New York, in June, 1865, with a record second to that of no command which had participated in the Civil war. Mr. Schell served most of the time as company clerk, with rank of Corporal, and his services entitled him to much further promotion, his usefulness in the position he filled being the only bar to advancement. During the entire period of his service, from enlistment to the close of the war, he never was wounded and never was absent from his command on account of sickness. He also had two brothers in the Union army, Harvis and Hiram H. The latter served as First Lieutenant in Battery D, Fourth United States Regular Artillery. The battery to which our subject belonged fired 6,000 rounds at the battle of Spottsylvania, and General Sedgwick met his death between a section of their guns. Thus, in the Civil war, as well as the previous ones in which this country has been engaged, the Schells took an active and honorable part. The deeds of John Christian Schell and his sons in the cause of liberty, during the Revolutionary struggle, are a matter of history; while in the war of 1812, Jacob Schell, the grandfather of our subject, served as a Captain and took part in the battle of Sackett's Harbor.

When mustered out of the service, H. R. Schell, subject of this sketch, returned to his home where he remained until 1867. He then came to California, by way of Panama, and went into business with his uncle, A. Schell. In 1890 he bought out the latter, and has since carried on the wine business, his principal market being New York. Mr. Schell personally superintends every process connected with the making of wine at the Red Mountain Vineyard and Winery, from the growing and care of the vines and grapes to the ultimate making, care and shipment of the completed wines.

Mr. Schell was married, September 23, 1873, to Miss Clara Church, daughter of Artemus Church, of New York. They were reared together from childhood. Their seven children are as follows: Artemus Church, Pearl, Adolph Edison, Violet, Lucille, Charlotta and Romaine Herrick, Jr.

Mr. Schell is a member of the Grant Post, No. 9, G. A. R., and is a Republican in politics. Personally, he is a genial, courteous gentleman, ranking among the foremost citizens of the county.

JOHN F. TRUMBLY, a successful farmer of Stanislaus county, California, is a native of the Badger State, born in Monroe county, January 8, 1861. His parents are Anthony and Fanny (Lebear) Trumbly, both being natives of the State of New York and of French descent. They now reside in California, having come to the State in 1890. They are the parents of ten children, our subject being the seventh born.

John F. Trumbly came to California in 1881. Having been reared to farm life, he at once engaged in that pursuit, working for wages for a time before launching out on his own account. He is now located six miles

from La Grange, near the Tuolumne river, where he rents 1,300 acres, which he devotes to grain-growing and stock-raising.

He was joined in marriage at Modesto, October 17, 1886, with Miss Florence Blodgett, who was also born in Wisconsin. They have two children, Raymond and Eva.

Mr. Trumbly is a stanch Republican, although he takes no active part in political matters. He came to this State with no other capital save an abundance of push and determination, and by his own industry and careful economy has raised himself to the position he now occupies among the successful tillers of the soil. It is not always golden opportunities that make men successful in their undertakings. In this case it was merit rising superior to circumstances. Mr. Trumbly is certainly entitled to credit for what he has accomplished, demonstrating alike the capabilities of the country and the possibilities for young men of push and enterprise.

EDWARD H. APPLING, one of the young men of Stanislaus county, California, who believes in taking his part in progressive movements, is a native of Laclede county, Missouri, born on February 9, 1855, his parents being James M. and Elizabeth (Barnes) Appling. Both parents were born in Kentucky. The father is yet a resident of Laclede county, Missouri, and the mother is deceased.

Mr. Appling was reared to young manhood in his native county, and in 1875 came to California to try his fortunes in the Golden State. Coming to Stanislaus county he engaged at farm work, and was so employed by others for twelve years. In 1887 he rented 640 acres of the Dallas Home Ranch, lying along the Tuolumne river, which he yet retains, and of this he farms 580 acres, making a specialty of wheat growing.

He was married at Waterford, Stanislaus county, November 2, 1887, to Miss Minnie Cogswell, a native of Michigan, and a daughter of C. M. Cogswell, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. They have two children, viz.: William Raymond and Hugh Lester.

Mr. Appling is a Republican in politics, and as a citizen takes an active interest in public affairs. Personally, he is frank and agreeable in manner and demeanor, and he ranks among the enterprising, well-informed men of the community.

THOMAS RICHARDSON, one of the prominent citizens of Stanislaus county, and an old-time resident as well, was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, September 28, 1818, his parents being Robert and Catharine (Bullen) Richardson. The mother was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky, and there the father, a native of Virginia, went when a young man, and was married there. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, being in Matson's command, Harrison's army, and spiked some of the British guns at the battle of the Thames.

When our subject, Thomas Richardson, was but three months old the family removed to Pike county, Missouri, and eight years later to Pike county, Illinois, locating at Martinsburg, about six miles from Pittsfield, where he grew up to young manhood. He next went to Iowa, and was engaged for four years at the Government farm on the Des Moines river, where the Black Hawk Indian agency was. Including himself there were only three or four white people there, and all the rest were the savage Black Hawk Indians. He became well acquainted with the chiefs of that tribe, including the sons of the noted leader Black Hawk, one of the most celebrated of savage chieftains. From there he returned to Pike county, Illinois, and was married in 1845. In 1850 he crossed the plains to California with an ox team. Proceeding to the gold diggings on the American river, he mined there about two weeks. In December of 1851 he went back East by water, returning to California in 1852, coming across the plains and being accompanied by his family. He was captain of the company both times. He located on the Stanislaus river, where he now lives, and where he has 700 acres of land, secured partly by the pre-emption and the homestead rights and partly by purchase. Here he has done much in the way of improvement, the buildings being very creditable, among them being a handsome and commodious residence erected in 1867. His land is of the best in California, and is devoted principally to farming, except about eighty acres which he leases to a man who is improving it with orchard trees, vines, etc. The whole place presents a handsome appearance to the eye of one accustomed to the blending of the beautiful and useful in nature. Besides his home ranch he has another ranch of ninety-six acres, a mile and a half southeast of Oakdale, which he himself farms.

Mr. Richardson was married in Illinois, January 9, 1845, to Miss Lucinda Jane Waggoner, a native of Tennessee. They have two children, viz.: John J., a namesake of General Hardin; and Ephraim. Mr. Richardson is a member of the Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F. & A. M., of which he is Steward, and also of Modesto Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M. Politically, he is a Democrat, taking an active interest as a citizen in political an public affairs, and has attended the party conventions as a delegate. He served one term as Justice of the Peace of Oakdale.

Mr. Richardson is a man of the highest integrity, and enjoys the respect and esteem of all who know him.

D. E. SAUNDERS, manager of the Waterford Lumber Yard for the Modesto Lumber Company, was born in Paris, Kentucky, October 25, 1861. His parents, J. S. and Tabitha Ellen (Hall) Saunders, are now residents of Xenia, Ohio. When he was a mere child they removed to Sabina, Clinton county, Ohio, and there he was reared and educated.

In May, 1889, Mr. Saunders came to California, and for a time was employed in the vicinity of Turlock. Afterward, he was for

eight months in Stockton. In May, 1891, he accepted the responsible position which he now holds as the Waterford representative of the Modesto Lumber Company, which is referred to elsewhere in this volume. He is a courteous, genial young gentleman, and, being endowed with good business qualifications makes a success of the interests placed in his charge.

Politically Mr. Saunders is a Democrat.

GARRISON TURNER, president and manager of the Grange Company, Modesto, California, forms the subject of this brief article. The company, of which he is at the head, was established as a joint stock company in 1874, with headquarters at Modesto—Garrison Turner, president, and Theodore Turner, secretary. Ever since their incorporation they have done a flourishing and successful business. They have large warehouses on the line of the Southern Pacific railroad at Modesto, Salida, Ceres, Keyes and Turlock; also on the Stockton & Merced railroad at Waterford, Hickman and Montpelier. Their facilities for handling grain are unexcelled. They advance money on grain in store at low rates of interest; sell bags, twine, etc., at lowest market prices; and buy wheat, always paying the highest market prices. They are also agents for first-class insurance companies, and insure all classes of property on the best terms.

Garrison Turner is a California pioneer of 1850. Since 1867 he has been closely identified with the growth and prosperity of Stanislaus county. Mr. Turner is a native of Indiana, and dates his birth December 25, 1838. His parents removed to Jefferson county, Iowa, in 1842, and on a farm at that place he lived, attending the district schools, until 1850. That year the family crossed the plains to California and settled in San Joaquin county, near Stockton, where young Turner completed his schooling. His father, John Turner, is a native of Maryland, and is of English extraction. His mother, Mary (Bodfield) Turner, was also a native of Maryland, her ancestors being Scotch people. She died in 1864. The father is still living, having reached the advanced age of ninety-one years. Of the twelve children born to them, Garrison was the ninth.

Mr. Turner was joined in marriage, in Benton county, Oregon, with Miss Elizabeth Star, a native of Iowa. Her father, Samuel Star, crossed the plains to the far West and settled in Oregon in 1847. Mr. and Mrs. Turner have seven children living, viz.: Henry G., Leander T., Florence S., Mary, Rose E., Olive M. and Veda M. They lost one daughter in infancy.

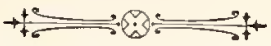
Politically Mr. Turner is a stanch advocate of prohibition principles, and is an earnest and efficient worker in the temperance cause. He is a member of the Good Templars of Modesto, and is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

SILAS BISHOP, deceased, was for years a prominent man of Stanislaus county, California, and one who took part in her development.

He was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, February 10, 1830, his parents boing Harry and Calista (Lamont) Bishop. He was reared to young manhood in his native connty, and lived there till December, 1849, when he came to California. He arrived in San Francisco in January, 1850, and, proceeding to the mountains, engagod in mining noar Sonora, Tuolumne county. There he remained until the Fraser river mining excitement took him to that place. Two years later he returned to California, and after that drovo teams botween Stockton and the various camps of the Southern minos until 1864, when he engaged in ranching on the Stanislaus river at the old Major Burney ferry. In 1866 he bought land where the family now reside, and lator took np land by the exercise of the preemption and homestead rights.

In 1864 he was married, in San Joaquin county, to Tennessee Willingham, and on the purchase of tho place mentionod the couple settled there. In September, 1888, Mr. Bishop went to Nevada, expecting to improvo his failing health, but was disappointed, and returned the next month to Oakdale, where he died May 27, 1889. He was a Democrat politically, and socially he affiliated with the Masonic order, being a member of the Oakdale Lodge.

The maiden namo of Mrs. Bishop was Tennessee Gardenheier, daughter of Jacob Harvey and Catharine (Mattlock) Gardenheier. She was born in Carroll county, Arkansas, and remained there till her fourteonth year. In 1853 the family came to California overland, with ox teams, locating in Stanislaus county, on the south side of the Tuolnmne river. In this county her children have been reared and educated. Their names are as follows: Isabella, Alice, Harry, Adda May, Matilda, Catharine, Nathan, Silas, Estelle and Mary. Mrs. Bishop has 1,290 acres of land, which is dovoted to farming and grazing, and has displayed good business ability in its management.



G. H. OSLER, M. D.—Prominent among the medical practitioners of Stanislaus county, California, is the gentleman with whose name we introduce this brief sketch.

Dr. Osler is a native of Grundy county, Illinois, born September 16, 1851. His parents, George W. and Ennice (Booth) Osler, were both born in Ohio. His maternal grandmother was a niece of Lord Percy, of Revolutionary war famo, and on his father's side he is a descendant of the well known Hollenback family, of the early settlements of Illinois and Ohio. His father died in 1880; his mother is still living. They had twelve children, the Doctor being tho eldest.

He came to California in 1869. After one year's residence in Solano and Sutter counties, he went to Douglas county, Orogon, whero for five years he attended and taught school, and commenced the study of medicine with Dr. W. B. Royal, of Oakland, Oregon. In 1876 he entered the medical department of the University of California, and graduated in 1878, after which he located in Oakdale. Here he has since resided, with the exception

of two years when he practiced medicine at Modesto. On his return to Oakdale he resumed his old practice, and now has a fair share of the public patronage.

He has held the position of Health Officer at different times, also filling that position while a resident of Modesto.

The Doctor was joined in marriage in Oregon, October 25, 1884, with Miss Anna E. Smith, a native of Rosenburg of that State.

They have three children, Lafayette Langford, Dean S., and an infant son.

Dr. Osler is a Republican; holds the position of School Trustee, and in a social way affiliates with the I. O. O. F., Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, of which he is Vice-Grand.

WILLIS DUNBAR, superintendent of the Union Water Company, Murphy's, California, was born in New Hampshire in 1838, son of Freeman and Hannah Dunbar. He is the oldest of a family of four children, and was educated in the district schools. His father was an early pioneer of California, and in 1856 built a lumber mill near the Big Trees, in company with Messrs. Sleeper and Hoyt.

It was that year, 1856, that Willis came to California and joined his father, with whom he continued till 1866, when he went East. In 1870 he returned to California, and with his father carried on the lumber business till 1871, under the firm name of Dunbar & Son. In 1871 they engaged in farming, and continued with good success till 1878. Mr. Dunbar then went to work for Mr. Cutting to help settle the Kimball estate, having been appointed by the Public Administrator. After a year and a half he was appointed superintendent of the Union Water Company, and has given his whole attention to this ever since. He owns a fine ranch of 1,000 acres, located four miles south of the Big Trees, one hundred acres of which are fine bottom lands. The rest is covered with timber of an excellent quality. The estimate is twelve to fifteen million feet of timber, ranging from two to seven feet in diameter.

Mr. Dunbar owns a fine residence on Jones Avenue in Murphy's, and a beautiful plat of five acres. He was married in 1880 to Miss Ellen Roberts, a native of Calaveras county, and a daughter of David and Margaret Roberts, pioneers of this State. Their children are Willis R., Clarence E., Elmer D. and Archer O.

Socially, Mr. Dunbar affiliates with the Masonic fraternity and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically, he is a strong Republican. He is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Murphy's, and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

ALLEN TAYLOR, the pioneer stonecutter of Angel's Camp, California, was born in Rhode Island, in July, 1820, son of Owen and Martha (Brown) Taylor. He was reared on a farm, and at the proper age learned his trade in the city of Providence, where he worked for several years.

February, 1849, Mr. Taylor became a member of the Narragansett Trading & Mining Company, which was organized in Providence with seventy-five members. They bought the bark Velasco, put on two years' provisions, and February 14, 1849, sailed from Boston for San Francisco, around Cape Horn. They reached the Azores March 10, and barely escaped shipwreck. March 20, they sailed for the Cape Verde Islands, and April 1 sailed thence, reaching the Horn on the 20th of May. There they met heavy winds and were carried far to the south, and it was not till June that they rounded the Cape. July 4th they were becalmed off the coast of Chili, remaining thus four days. July 8th, they reached Talcohuana, Chili, and there sold their vessel to Chilian merchants for $7,000, the vessel to be delivered in San Francisco. They took on $2,000 worth of flour and lumber, and July 24th sailed for San Francisco. Twelve days north they were becalmed for twelve days. October 6th they entered the harbor, through the Golden Gate. On board the ship the Narragansett Trading & Mining Company had dissolved, and on landing formed small companies of two to twelve each, his company having eight.

After they built a store house in San Francisco, Mr. Taylor started for the mines. It took him four days and nights to reach Stockton, and there he waded in mud to his knees hunting for something to eat. He could get neither food nor lodging, and had to go back to the vessel; stopped there in the rain a week. Joining with another company he bought two yoke of oxen and a wagon, and started with provisions for the mines. In Tuolumne county he followed mining for several months, with varied success. In 1851 he went back to his old home in Providence, via Panama, and worked at his trade there until 1854. In 1855 he returned home for his family and immediately returned to California and located at Vallicita, Calaveras county. Since then he has followed his trade, and many fine stone buildings in Angel's, San Andreas and Mokelumne Hill stand as monuments to his skill and workmanship. Also a part of this time he was engaged in ranching and mining operations.

Mr. Taylor was married in 1840, to Sallie Green, who died six years later. In 1847, he wedded Delana Capwell, by whom he had four children, all but one now deceased. His second wife died in 1885.

MYRON H. REED, editor and one of the proprietors of the Mountain *Echo*, Angel's, California, was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, May 4, 1835. His parents, Fred. D. and Roxana Reed, natives of Ontario county, New York, were of Scotch descent. In their family of nine children, he was the eighth born.

His education was received in the common schools, and he afterward took a two years' course at the academy at Portsmouth. His early intention was to become a physician; but when he left the academy, he accepted a clerkship at Wheelersburg, Ohio, where he remained until he was eighteen years old.

At that timo he started overland to California, leaving St. Josoph, Missouri, May 4, 1852, undor Captain John Miller, with a company of sixty-four persons. Their objeetivo point was Angol's Camp, California, whieh plaee they reaehed in safety on Septembor 9, 1852, tho second birthday of this great State. Like all others he engaged in mining in various localities, and mot with good results.

Mr. Roed's work as a writer for the press dates back to 1853, when he was correspondent for the Golden *Era*; and also for *Harper's Magazine*. In 1861 he went to Virginia City, Novada, and for a time was a writer for the Torritorial *Enterprise*, and for tho San Franeiseo *Bulletin*. In Nevada he lost hoavily in mining operations. In 1862 ho went to Carson Valley and engaged in the vegotable business; after this to Mokelumne Hill.

Not discouraged, however, he kept on mining until 1879, when he began publishing tho Mountain *Echo*, in the city of Angel's. This is a seven-eolumn paper, independent in politics, with a Republican editor. The motto, "Independent in everything, neutral in nothing," gives an idea of the editor's eharaeter as a journalist. Fearless, aggressivo, effeetivo, the *Echo* sends forth its warning voice far and near, and woe to him who is in tho wrong in any publie cause.

Of Mr. Reod's private life it may he said that in January, 1863, ho married Miss Mahala H. Watson, a native of Indiana. Thoy had soven children, five of whom are living, viz.: Ida, wife of J. L. Hutchinson; Roxana, wife of R. D. Rodgers; Jesse, living; Myron and Walter, deceased; Charles and Sadia.

In his religion Mr. Reed is a Freethinker. He is as popular as he is well known.

JOHN CONNER.—The above named gentleman, located three miles west of Knight's Ferry, is one of the substantial and prosperous farmers of Stanislaus county, California. His fine ranch consists of 3,000 acres of land, nearly all under cultivation, and devoted to stock and grain.

Mr. Conner is a native of Michigan, born near Detroit, November 17, 1835, son of William and Susan (Conor) Conner, natives of Michigan, both his maternal and paternal ancestors being early settlers of that State. His father died August 2, 1852. In the family of eight children John was the third born, and in his native State he was reared and educated. In 1856 he went to Wisconsin and engaged in farming, being thus occupied when the Civil war broke out. He was among the first to respond to his country's call for aid. He enlisted as a private in the Second Regiment of Wisconsin Cavalry, and was subsequently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. He served with distinction all through the war, the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Champion Hill being among the many important engagements in which he participated.

On being mustered out of the service at the close of the war he returned North and engaged in mercantile pursuits for a few years, and then turned his attention to farm-

ing again. He removed to Sac county, Iowa, and from there in 1881 came to California, locating near Modesto. He has since farmed in Stanislaus county, and is now working a ranch of 3,000 acres. He owns real estate, but not in California.

Mr. Conner was married in Wisconsin, May 4, 1864, to Miss Susan Traner, a native of Canada. They have six children, viz.: Mary, wife of A. H. Madison, of Stanislaus county; Margaret A., John H., Melvin L., Jay T. and Jesse C. They also have two children deceased,—William W., who died November 16, 1879, and William J., September 22, 1878.

Mr. Conner is a gentleman well informed on the current events of the day; is enterprising and progressive. He takes an active interest in political matters, casting his vote and influence with the Republican party.

A. L. CRESSEY, president of the Modesto Bank, is one of the representative business men and able financiers of Central California. He has been connected with the Modesto Bank since its organization, and has been its president for the past fifteen years. It was established in 1878, has a paid-up capital of $175,000, with a surplus and reserve of $200,000, and is one of the most prosperous financial institutions of Modesto, drawing exchange direct upon San Francisco, Stockton and New York.

A. L. Cressey was born in Carroll county, New Hampshire, January 27, 1838, and from early boyhood was reared to farming pursuits, his father, Curtis Cressey, being a farmer. His mother's maiden name was Susan B. Littlefield. Both parents are deceased. Of their family of four children, A. L. is the youngest. He came to California and located in San Joaquin county in 1857. For ten years he was engaged in farming and teaming in that county, after which he moved to Stanislaus county and here continued his agricultural pursuits. He also has farming interests in Merced county.

During his residence in California Mr. Cressey has made several trips to the Eastern States. He was married in Maine, in 1868, and has three children, viz.: Nellie, Allie and George. His oldest son, Charles, died at the age of six years.

Mr. Cressey is a stanch Republican and an enthusiastic worker in his party ranks. He affiliates with the I. O. O. F. of Modesto.

GEORGE W. HALE, proprietor of lumber yards and planing mill, Sonora, California, has been actively identified with the work of building up Tuolumne county for more than thirty years. A brief review of his life gives the following facts:

George W. Hale was born in Somerset county, Maine, May 4, 1841, and is the fifth of eleven children born to John and Olive S. Hale, natives of Maine and New Hampshire respectively. His ancestors were English people who came from England to America in the sixteenth century. The grandsires of

our subject, on both the paternal and maternal sides, were officers in the patriotic army during the Revolutionary war.

Early in his teens, George W. began the battle of life for himself. Leaving home, he led a rambling life several years before embarking for the golden West. Buying and selling stock was his principal occupation. Not satisfied with the prospect of life in his native State, in 1857 he left the haunts of his boyhood and came to California, making the journey via the Panama route. Since then he has visited his old home four different times. After his arrival here he spent the first two years in mining in Tuolumne county. In 1859, he and a partner engaged in the lumber trade. In 1874, Mr. Hale purchased his partner's interest, and has since conducted his various enterprises alone. His present mill, which supplies the Sonora yard with lumber, is located on the Stanislaus river, some twenty miles from Sonora. The mill is run by steam power, and has a capacity for turning out 25,000 feet of lumber daily. It employs forty men. The Sonora yard has always on hand a large and choice stock of building material, while the planing mill turns out flooring and all kinds of moulding, etc. Five men are employed about the mill, and Mr. Hale's daughter, Miss Olive S., is bookkeeper and has control of the office business. For many years Mr. Hale was connected with the lumbering business at Columbia, before locating in Sonora. He sold out the plant there some years ago, and lost heavily in the transfer. He has been identified with many enterprises in the county. He built the water-works at Oakdale; is a trustee and one of the principal stockholders of the Tuolumne Water Company.

Mr. Hale was married at Columbia, to Miss Josephine Spear, a native of Peoria, Illinois, and a daughter of Joseph and S. M. Spear, residents of Visalia, California. Mr. and Mrs. Hale have one daughter living, and two sons, Claronee and Charles, deceased. He takes no active interest in political matters. Socially, he affiliates with the F. & A. M., I. O. O. F. and Chosen Friends, all of Columbia.

ANDREW J. MEANS.—The above named gentleman is one of Stanislaus county's prominent and progressive farmers. He was born in Hancock county, Maine, March 4, 1829. His parents were Captain James and Eliza (Heath) Means, both natives of Maine. The father was born in 1779, of English and Scotch extraction, and was a seafaring man for many years. He died in 1874, at the advanced age of ninety-five years. The Meanses were among the early settlers of Maine, and of a prolific race. The maternal grandmother of Mr. Means had eighteen children. The mother was born at Seal Cove, Island of Mount Desert. Her father, William Heath, served with distinction as a private soldier in the war of the Revolution, being a member of Morgan's company of riflemen. A certified copy of William Heath's discharge, signed by Washington, which Mr. Means has in his

possession, states that he belonged to the New Hampshire Battalion.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest in a family of ten children. He was reared to manhood and received his education in his native State. His early employment in life was that of farming and working about granite works, the property of his father. He came to California in 1853, via Panama, on the steamer George Law on the Atlantic side, and Golden Gate on the Pacific. From San Francisco he went to Columbia, Tuolumne county, and for a time engaged in mining. Later, he located seven miles southeast of Knight's Ferry, and engaged in farming. His possessions consist of 2,500 acres, 1,500 of which are principally grazing lands, the rest devoted to the production of grain. Mr. Means makes a specialty of sheep-raising, having been engaged in this enterprise for the past twenty-seven years. He also raises cattle and horses, having some sixty head of each.

Mr. Means affiliates with the F. & A. M., Summit Lodge, No. 112; is also a member of the Royal Arch degree. Politically, he is a stanch Republican, taking an active interest in local matters.

THOMAS W. JOHNS, M. D., a pioneer of the pioneers, whose advent into the State of California dates back to the year 1847, is a native of the State of Massachusetts, born near the city of Boston, September 22, 1817. His parents were Thomas W. and Martha (Mason) Johns, both of whom were natives of the State of Maine, the former of Welsh extraction. They were the parents of eleven children, Thomas W. being the third. He received his schooling in his native State, and at an early age began a seafaring life, which he followed several years. Later, he studied medicine and graduated in the Queenstown Medical College, Canada, in 1836. On his return to Massachusetts he began the practice of his profession. In 1847 he entered Straw's Medical College, New Orleans, Louisiana, and took another course of lectures. The same year he enlisted for service in the Mexican war, and acted as assistant surgeon in General Davis' command. He was discharged from the service at Vallejo, California, and immediately returned East, remaining a short time in New York. Then he, in company with his father, proceeded to Richmond, Virginia, where the latter purchased a vessel and loaded it with lumber, and in due time rounded Cape Horn and arrived in California.

Soon after their arrival at San Francisco the Doctor went to Tuolumne county, locating at Sonora, where he practiced his profession for twenty years. During that period he was also a resident of San Andreas and Mokelumne Hill. In 1868 he removed to Stanislaus county and purchased 160 acres of farm land, and turned his attention to farming. He also practiced medicine and surgery until 1886, when he retired from professional life. His farm is located six miles northwest of Oakdale, and is all devoted to grain-growing and stock-raising.

The Doctor was joined in marriage, at So-

nora, in 1864, with Miss Eliza J. McGinta, a native of Pennsylvania. They have had three children, namely: Thomas W., Lillie M. and Charles Anthony. The last named lost his life by accident June 19, 1887.

The Doctor is a staunch Republican, and has always taken an active part in political matters. Socially, he is a member of the F. & A. M., of Oakdale.

ANDREW J. PATTERSON, an honored and respected citizen of Stanislaus county, California, and a pioneer of 1852, was born in Greene county, Tennessee, March 14, 1822. His parents were Andrew and Susan (Trotter) Patterson, the former a native of Virginia, of Scotch-Irish extraction, and one of the early settlers of the State. He died in 1849. The grandfather on the paternal side was a patriot soldier in the Revolutionary struggle. The mother of our subject was a native of Tennessee. The family consisted of twelve children, the subject of this sketch being the seventh born. He was reared in South Carolina, whither his parents moved when he was quite young. His early life was devoted to farming and working about his father's paper mill. The family removed to Missouri in 1842.

Mr. Patterson was a soldier in the Mexican war, and participated in several engagements during that struggle. Afterward, for several years, he was engaged in freighting between Kansas City, Missouri, and Salt Lake City. He came to California in 1852, locating in Alameda county, where he engaged in sheep-raising until 1858, when he removed to Stanislaus county, and continued the business there for many years. He is now retired from active life, and makes his home with his son, William A., a practical farmer located near Oakdale. Mr. Patterson still owns valuable farm property, consisting of 577 acres situated three miles east of Oakdale, utilized as a grain and stock ranch. He has been prominently identified with the growth and prosperity of the county since he became a resident here. He was elected county Supervisor and served from 1882 to 1884. He has always taken an active interest in politics, having been a Democratic delegate to county conventions from 1859 to 1891, except a few years that he resided in the city of Stockton.

He was married in Jackson county, Missouri, April 1, 1852, to Miss Hannah Eliza Carmichael, a native of Tennessee. They have had four children, three of whom are still living, namely: Mary P., Anna B., and William A. James A. died October 17, 1891.

Mr. Patterson is a worthy and progressive citizen, and one who has the respect and esteem of the entire community.

JOHN STEEL was born in Germany, April 5, 1826, and is a son of Justus and Mary (Watterman) Steel. He was educated in the public schools, and when a youth learned the shoemaker's trade, at which he worked from the age of thirteen to twenty-four years. In 1848 he came to the

United States and located in St. Louis, and there worked at his trade four years. In 1852 he crossed the plains to California, arriving at "Hangtown" after a trip of four and a half months. For nine years he followed mining with good results. In 1861 he came to San Andreas and began work at his trade. He owns a ranch of 2,000 acres six miles south of San Andreas, devoted to stock-raising; also a fine timber claim of 300 acres in Tuolumne county. His residence is located on the former property, which is a most desirable and valuable ranch.

Mr. Steel was married in 1852, to Miss Josephine Hodecken, a native of Germany. Their children are Mary, wife of John Early, a capitalist of San Andreas; George Edward, William, and Walter Lincoln.

Socially, Mr. Steel is an Odd Fellow; politically, a Republican.

STEPHEN ROGERS, deceased, who was a California pioneer of 1853, was born at Clifton Park, New York, August 21, 1822. He was reared and received his education in his native State. He came to California via Panama, and for a time engaged in mining in Tuolumne county. Not meeting with satisfactory success in mining operations, he soon afterward located in San Joaquin county near the city of Stockton, and for many years following was among the successful and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers of that section of the country. He removed to Stanislaus county in 1867, and first located at Paradise, a once lively and prosperous town, which has since succumbed to the railroad town of Modesto. Only a few of the old landmarks remain to mark its site.

There Mr. Rogers owned some 1,500 acres of choice fruit and farming land, which is still a portion of his estate, now under lease. This beautiful and valuable property is better known as Paradise Garden, and many of the choice apples, pears, peaches and grapes of the county are grown on this famous ranch, a large acreage being devoted to orchard and vineyard. Some years ago, when under the personal management of Mr. Rogers, large quantities of hops were grown here. Mr. Rogers changed his residence to Modesto in the early history of that now flourishing city, and up to the time of his death was one of the most prominent and progressive citizens. He died March 21, 1888.

Mr. Rogers was married to Miss Caroline Cotton, in New York, in 1850, she having joined her husband in California some eighteen months after his arrival in the Golden State. Mrs. Rogers is also a native of New York State, and is the eighth in a family of ten children born to John and Maria (Bame) Cotton, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. The Cottons were of German extraction, their ancestors having located in New York in the seventeenth century. The Bames are a well-known family of New York also. Their ancestors were among the early and influential settlers of the Colonial days. Jeremiah Bame, a maternal uncle of Mrs. Rogers, built and commanded the first steamboat that ran between New York City and Albany.

In later years he came to California, and at one time was financially connected with a line of steamers between San Francisco and China. To Stephen Rogers and his wife was born a son, Stimpson P. Rogers at Clifton Park, Saratoga county, where he was reared. He was a young man, possessing many sterling qualities, and as he advanced in life his lofty character and enterprising ability were duly recognized in Stanislaus county, his courteous manners and genial disposition making him a general favorite. He erected the large business block in Modesto, known as Rogers' Hall. As cashier he was an element of strength to the Modesto Bank. He was also the principal stockholder in the Modesto Water Company, which he controlled up to the time of his death, and when the First National Bank of Modesto was organized, he was made cashier and held it until his death, which occurred October 21, 1886.

Mrs. Rogers has recently erected a magnificent residence, situated on the corner of I and Thirteenth streets, Modesto, which for architectural design and beauty of finish is not excelled in the city. It is a two-and-a half story frame, contains eleven rooms, bath, electric bells and all modern conveniences, and is complete in all its appointments. The grounds have a frontage of 140 feet on I street, and contain a large number of orange trees, flower beds and beautiful ornamental shrubbery, while the sidewalks are adorned with a high growth of evergreen hedge.

Mrs. Rogers is a lady of culture and refinement. Her beautiful home is one of neatness, comfort and luxury, and over it she presides with becoming grace and dignity, although her loved ones are gone. The comforts of her home, with the congenial society of her many friends, it is to be hoped, may in time erase her sorrow and alienate her thoughts from those sad memories, and enable her to pass the evening of her life in contentment.

C. M. COGSWELL.—The above named gentleman is a California pioneer of 1851. He was born in Cayuga county, New York, September 15, 1828, son of William Cogswell, also a native of the Empire State, the latter's parents having been pioneers of New York. The mother of our subject, also a native of New York, died in 1891. William Cogswell departed this life in 1861.

C. M. Cogswell was reared and educated in the State of his nativity, in early manhood learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, and followed it till 1851, when he came to California, making the journey via Panama. He took passage on the Atlantic side in the steamer Illinois, and made the Pacific voyage in the Carolina. On his arrival at San Francisco, he started for the mines of Tuolumne county, where he engaged in mining some three years, meeting with fair success in that enterprise. He afterward came to Stanislaus county and located near Waterford, remaining, however, only a short time, after which he returned to the home of his boyhood. The next twelve years he spent in New York. From there he went to Calhoun

county, Michigan, where for a number of years he was actively engaged in farming. In 1880 he again visited California, and the following year located on the property of his sistor, Mrs. E. C. Dallas, widow of Charles Dallas. This property consists of 800 acres, and is used as a stock and grain farm.

Mr. Cogswell was married in New York, Febrnary 4, 1857, to Miss Clara Sykes, who was born in New York State. They have reared a family of four children, namely: Minnie A., married and settled in life; Hattie R. and William E., at home; and Ellen M., the first born, who died in 1876.

In political matters, Mr. Cogswell is alliod with the progressive wing of the Democratic party. He affiliates with the F. & A. M., blne lodge and chapter, and has passed the official chairs in the former.

W. H. PALMER, one of the representative and successful farmers of Stanislans county, located ten miles east of Modesto, is a native of Danville, Caledonia connty, Vermont, dating his birth June 13, 1864. His father, Frank R. Palmer, was born in the same State, as was likewise his mother, Emily Smith (Chamberlain) Palmer. The latter is deceased. The Palmers trace their ancestry back to the English, their forefathers having settled in Vermont early in the seventeenth century. The paternal grandfather of W. H. Palmer had the honor to be Vermont's first Governor.

The subject of our sketch was reared and edncated in his native State, completing his course of study at the Fairbanks Academy of St. Johnsbury when eighteen years of age. He is the older of the two children in his father's family, and on the home farm his rugged boyhood days were passed. In 1885 he came to California and sottled in Tulare county, where he was engaged in farming for about three years, at the expiration of which time he removed to Stanislans county. In October, 1891, he purchased his present farm, which consists of 320 acres, and is all devoted to the production of grain. In addition to this, he also owns 1,440 acres located two miles east of his home property, this, too, being utilized as grain land. It is rented to parties who cultivate it.

Mr. Palmer was married in Stanislans connty, August 27, 1890, to Miss Etha L. Fox, a native of California. They have ono child, John F. Politically, Mr. Palmer is a Democrat.

LUKE PEAK is a pionoer of 1849.—Born in Morgan county, Illinois, October 11, 1832, he is a son of Absalom and Rebecca (Butler) Peak, nativos of Tennessee. He is the fourth of their family of eleven children; he received his education in the common schools, and was roared to the life of a farmer. At the age of seventeen years, however, he left the parental roof, setting ont for the Pacific coast; there were seventy-five men in the company as far as Independence Rock on the Swoetwater river. The company divided on account of food for stock, and continued the jonrney, traveling with ox

teams. They started April 5, 1849, and arrived in Sacramento September 22, of the same year, or rather, reached the present site of Sacramento. The first work Mr. Peak secured was shaving staves for barrels; then for three weeks he engaged in the all-absorbing occupation of mining. Later his father bought some whale boats, and a number of men accompanied him to San Francisco; the names of those making the voyage are: Luke Peak, Absalom Peak, Newt. Kirkpatrick, R. R. Holiday, Wiley Brazil and C. S. Weaver. After a few days Mr. Peak went to the redwoods of Contra Costa county, where he made shingles and sawed lumber with a whipsaw; he sold the lumber for $250 per thousand. He remained in this place from December, 1849, until April, 1850. He then rented some land and turned his attention to horticulture and gardening; afterward he entered the employ of Elam Brown, and drove a team for him, receiving $100 per month.

In November, 1850, Mr. Peak returned to Illinois, via the Isthmus; he embarked at San Francisco on the sail ship South America, and was out forty-four days from San Francisco; he walked across the Isthmus in two days, and then took the steamer to New Orleans, thence by the steamer Western Belle to St. Louis, and after that a tramp of 100 miles to his old home, which he reached February 14, 1851. He tilled the soil and attended school during the winter until March, 1853, when he again set out for the Golden State. There were ten wagons, thirty men, five women and two children in the train. After a long and tedious journey of seven months they arrived at their destination, Taylor Valley, Contra Costa county. Here Mr. Peak was engaged in agriculture for two years, renting his land. In 1855 he purchased land and farmed until 1860, when he went into the coal mines near Mount Diablo, where he continued in business until 1864; he then again began tilling the soil, but in 1872 he came to Merced county and went into the live-stock business near Athlone. At present he rents about 1,000 acres near Merced, and a pleasant residence on Main and H streets, Merced.

He was married August 5, 1858, to Mary A. Hancock, a native of Tennessee. Seven children blessed this union; Alice, John, Luke and Nancy are living; George, Lizzie and James are deceased.

Mr. Peak is a strong advocate of the principles of temperance, and has been an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church since 1855. In 1859 he was made an elder of the church, and still holds the office; he was elected Clerk of the Session in 1859, and filled that position until 1888. He is a man of great integrity of character, and is highly respected by the entire community.

J. H. WELLS, proprietor of the hotel at Fourth Crossing, Calaveras county, California, is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born in Athens county, December 8, 1835. His parents, Samuel and Elizabeth (Matheney) Wells, had fifteen children, he being the eighth born. At the age of eighteen years he left home to do for him-

self, working at chores for a neighbor and attending school. His wages and the sale of a colt amounted to $75 in a year. With this amount in his pocket, he entered the preparatory department of Athens College, and when his money was exhausted he went to work again for the same man. He subsequently took the examination, and taught school one term, after which he again entered college. In 1859 he came to California and located at Mokelumne Hill. In 1860 he began to teach in the public schools, and taught till 1867, when he was appointed Clerk of Calaveras county, serving two years and three months. In 1866 he was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Barstow. In 1870 he was elected County Superintendent of Schools, and served one term. He ran for the second term, but was defeated by Dr. Walker. After this he resumed teaching, which profession he followed till August, 1887. He made a record as a teacher, which is perhaps without parallel, namely: he taught three years in succession and made thirteen months in each year.

Mr. Wells was married, July 4, 1867, to Miss Mary A. Reddick, daughter of William and Elizabeth Reddick. Their children are Lizzie B., William H., Oscar H., Frank C., Leo, Charley and Ruey.

Mr. Wells is both a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He has been very successful financially. He owns a fine stock ranch of 550 acres, besides the old Reddick homestead at Fourth Crossing, five miles from San Andreas. He has two fine orchards and raises some of the best varieties of all kinds of fruit. His farm will compare favorably with any in the county.

Such is a brief sketch of one of the well-known and highly respected citizens of Calaveras county.

JOHN FREDERICK MALLORY, the venerable blacksmith of Plainsburg, was born in Northfield, Massachusetts, February 20, 1821, a son of Simeon and Matilda (Tiffany) Mallory. The parents were descended from English and Scotch ancestors, and the grandfather was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. The father was a farmer by occupation, and he and his good wife reared a family of six sons and four daughters. John F. learned the trade of a blacksmith in his native town, and at the age of twenty-one years he started out in life for himself; for six years he worked as a journeyman in Boston and Worcester, but the tide of western emigration proved too strong, and May 5, 1851, he sailed from New York city on the Northern Light, bound for Aspinwall; the voyage was to be completed on the Yankee Blade, but as this vessel was lost he was obliged to wait forty-five days at San Juan del Sur for the North American; he finally arrived in San Francisco, July 7, 1851. Six weeks later he went to Sonora, Tuolumne county, and worked for a time at his trade. He became interested in mining operations, which he carried on until 1862. After that he followed his trade at Princeton, Mariposa county, until 1864; the next four years he

was superintendent of the Union Claim shops at Copperopolis; then three years were spent in Stockton, and in 1871 he came to Plainsburg, where he was suporintendent for Reuben Reynolds and James Waller until 1878; he then erected his own shop, and has since followed his trade.

Mr. Mallory was married November 24, 1846, to Abbie M. Howe, a native of Princeton, Massachusetts, and a daughter of Joel and Lydia Howe. Of this union six children have been born: Fred H., who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Crawford and Ella, who both diod in infancy; Emma, who died at the age of thirteen years; Addie, wife of Jefferson Price, a farmer; and Mattie, wife of Paul Newman, a farmer. All are living in Plainsburg.

WILLIAM M. MAXWELL, one of the substantial residents of the Dry Creek valley, Stanislaus county, California, is a native of Tennessee, born not far from Nashville, in what was then Perry county, December 23, 1834, his parents being Thomas and Serena (Prim) Maxwell, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. The Maxwells were originally from Virginia, but were pioneers in Kentucky, and contemporaries of Daniel Boone.

When William M. was about eight years of age his parents removed to Fayetteville, Washington county, Arkansas, where he was reared. In 1849 his father came across the plains to California, and (with his party) was the first man to drive a team to where Georgetown now stands. He mined there, and on the American river just below, until 1851, when he went back East, and in 1853 brought his family out to California, coming overland. Leaving Fayetteville, they passed through the Indian Nation, then out by Pike's Peak, and below that well-known landmark they left the Arkansas river, thence on by Fort Bridger, and passing Salt Lake they turned to the right of the main emigrant route, along which feed was scarce, and proceeded by way of Bear river past Chimney Rock, down Humboldt river to the sink, thence across the desert, but left the regular Carson trail before reaching Carson, then over upon Walker river and across the mountains to Sonora. They lost all their stock while en route. Locating a little above Sonora, they were engaged in lumbering, teaming and ranching to some extent, until 1857. In the winter William took what stock they had down to the plains, and game being plentiful he took his gun along. Not far from where he now lives there was a little house, and this he bought. He then went back to the mountains and brought the family down with him. Here the mother spent the remainder of her days, her death occurring in 1881. The father also died that same year, and both found their last resting place on the ranch. In the fall of 1879, Mr. Maxwell, the subject of our sketch, bought the place where he now resides. He owns 240 acres, devoted principally to wheat raising.

He was married February 26, 1879, to Miss Frederika Kappelmann, a native of

Germany, but reared in Wisconsin from her third year. They have two children, namely: Ivah Belle and Thomas Monroe.

Mr. Maxwell takes an active interest in public affairs as a citizen, and in the general welfare of the community. Politically, he is a Democrat, and has been quite prominent in party affairs; generally attends the conventions as a delegate, and was a candidate for the office of Recorder in 1888.

MRS. SARAH WOOTTEN, widow of the late Elias H. Wootten, resides on her fine estate in Stanislaus county, a few miles east of Modesto; and here, in her typical California home, she is quietly spending the evening of her life.

Mrs. Wootten is a native of Clarke county, Ohio, and is of English descent. Her ancestors were among the early and influential families of Pennsylvania. Her grandfather, Jacob Drake, was a patriot soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was supposed to be a descendant of Sir Francis Drake. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, Mrs. Wootten being the fifth born. Her father died in 1855.

October 28, 1847, she was united in marriage with Elias H. Wootten, a native of Sussex county, Delaware, who was born in May, 1822. Mr. Wootten was also of English descent. He was reared to farm life, and when he was fifteen years of age removed with his parents to Ohio, where he lived until 1850. Their happy union resulted in the birth of eight children, five of whom are living and all in California. In 1850 the family removed to Miami county, Indiana, and settled on a farm. Two years later they continued their way westward, stopping in Clay county, Illinois, where they remained until 1863. That year they moved to Colorado and located near Denver. In 1864 they came to California, and for two years lived in San Joaquin county, from whence they came to Stanislaus county in 1866, settling permanently four and a half miles east of Modesto. Here Mr. Wootten died February 14, 1879. Mrs. Wootten owns 560 acres of land and has it all under a high state of cultivation, it being a grain and stock farm. Her children are also large landholders, owning and cultivating extensive tracts of farming land in Merced and Fresno counties.

E. J. SOLINSKY, junior member of the firm of Reddick & Solinsky, attorneys at law, San Andreas, California, is a native son of the Golden West.

He was born in Tuolumne county, California, August 17, 1857. His father, C. W. H. Solinsky, was a forty-niner to California, and a banker, miner, and Wells-Fargo agent at Chinese Camp, Tuolumne county, California.

After attending the district schools, the subject of this sketch entered the University of California, and graduated at that institution in 1877, with the degree of Ph. B. He

then entered Hastings Law College, and in 1881 graduated with the degree of B. L. Previous to his entering the Hastings Law College, he taught two years in the mathematical department of the State University. While in the law school it was his privilege to study two years with General W. H. L. Barnes. In July, 1881, he began the practice of law in San Andreas. From 1886 to 1890 he was district attorney of Calaveras county. In 1890 he was nominated for the State Senate by the joint convention of Amador and Calaveras counties; but, on account of the nomination of his partner, J. B. Reddick, for Lieutenant Governor, and his subsequent election, Mr. Solinsky declined, so that their large clientage should not be neglected. His opportunities have been of the best, and he has improved them. Although yet a very young man, many eyes are turned toward him, and there is in store for him position, influence, honor among the jurists of the State.

Of his private life it may be said that he was married in 1882 to Miss Winnie Syme, a native daughter of the Golden West. Their children are Frankie, Elbert and Edward.

He is a Free and Accepted Mason, a member of the A. O. U. W. and N. S. G. W.

JOHN SCHNIDER, cabinetmaker and undertaker, located at the head of Washington Street, Sonora, California.

Mr. Schnider was born in Russia, May 16, 1857. His father, M. P. Schnider, was a native of Germany, and his mother, whose maiden name was Roza Godlewska, a native of Poland. He spent his early life on a farm, and when a youth came to America, locating in Sonora, August 16, 1875. Here he learned his trade, and in March, 1891, established himself in his present business. He has at his parlors a large selection of coffins and all necessary equipments for interment.

He is a Democrat in national matters, but is not active in local politics. He has some mining interests in the county and is the owner of a neat residence in Sonora. In religion he is a consistent Catholic.

Mr. Schnider was married at Sonora, to Miss Mary Gahle, a native of California. They have two children, John and Susie.

BENJAMIN S. TURPEN, one of the substantial farmers of Stanislaus county, resides on the Tuolumne river, six miles and a half east of Modesto.

Mr. Turpen is a native of Kentucky, born in Russell county, February 7, 1825. His father, Aaron Turpen, was also a native of Kentucky, and was of Scotch extraction. He died March 24, 1861. The Turpens were formerly of Virginia. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Jane Smith, was a native of Virginia. Her father, William Smith, was a patriot soldier under Washington, and served through the seven years of Revolutionary struggle. Benjamin S. is the third in a family of eleven children, and was reared to farming pursuits. He removed with his parents to Benton county, Missouri, in 1839. There he remained until 1850, when he joined an emigrant train and crossed

the plains with ox teams to the Golden State. Like most of the early arrivals at Placerville, he engaged in mining, and followed mining some eighteen months, a portion of the time being spent on the Feather river and on Onion Valley creek. Then he returned to Rough and Ready, El Dorado county, and in 1852 went back East via the Panama route, remaining until 1857. That year he again crossed the American Desert to California, and brought with him a large band of cattle. He located in Stanislaus county, where he has since resided. His farm now consists of eighty acres of choice land, devoted to grain, alfalfa, etc.

Mr. Turpon was married in Missouri, March 31, 1859, to Miss Mary M. Walthall, a native of Kentucky, his wife accompanying him across the plains. They have six children living and three deceased. The names of those living are as follows: James A., Sarah P., William C., Clara J., Albert G. and Henry W. Politically Mr. Turpen is a stanch Democrat, and takes an active interest in political matters. He is a worthy citizen and is highly respected by the community in which he resides.

DAVID N. SHELDON, one of the progressive young men of eastern Stanislaus county, was born in Illinois, about six miles from Litchfield, Montgomery county, May 7, 1857, his parents being Samuel and Susan (Crawford) Sheldon, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Tennessee. The father came across the plains to California in 1852, and engaged in mining near Angel's Camp in Calaveras county. He went back East, however, but in 1862 again crossed the plains to the Golden State, this time engaging in teaming between Stockton and various camps of the Southern mines. He also farmed near Linden in San Joaquin county. Making another trip back to his old home in the East, he brought his family out to California in 1867, this time making the journey by water via New York, Panama and San Francisco, the Atlantic portion of the voyage being made on the steamer Ocean Queen. They located in the place in Stanislaus county where our subject now makes his home, which is about twelve miles from Oakdale, and there the father pre-emptod land and also took up a homestead. Later he acquired other land by purchase, and the place now comprises 640 acres. In 1882 the father removed to Santa Cruz county, where he now resides.

David N. Sheldon, subject of this sketch, was reared in Illinois to the age of ten years, and since that time his life has been spent in California. During the residence of the family in this county his work was mostly on the home place, though during a small portion of the time he was in the employ of others. Since 1882 he has been farming and managing the section where he makes his home. He devotes the land to grain for the most part. It is a very good quality of grain land.

He was married in this county, September 3, 1889, to Miss Annie Voight, a native of Germany and daughter of William Voight.

They have two children, viz.: William Earl and Samuel Cleveland. Politically Mr. Sheldon is a Democrat. He is of the intelligent, energetic class who believe in progress and improvement, and contribute their share to the general advancement.

ALEXANDER LOVE, than whom there is not a more worthy man whose name appears in this work, is a pioneer in the fullest sense of the term. A brief review of his life is as follows:

Alexander Love was born in Scotland, January 14, 1820, son of John and Elizabeth (Harvey) Love, he being the second of their nine children. He received his education in the public schools, and in due time learned the trade of a stone-cutter. Being of an independent and roving disposition, he left his parents and native land in 1842, and came to free America, landing in New York city. There he followed his trade for some seven years. One year he worked on Trinity Church, Broadway, New York, and five years on Trinity Church, Brooklyn Heights. In the meantime he visited his home in Scotland, remaining there six weeks. After his return to New York he kept an umbrella and parasol store on Hudson street two years. Then, in September, 1851, he embarked for California via the Isthmus of Panama, making the Atlantic voyage in the steamer Illinois, and the Pacific in the Panama, and landing at San Francisco that same month. There he and some others hired a four-horse team to bring them to Angel's, and here Mr. Love followed mining for several years with good success. Then he engaged in the dairy business, which he continued five years. Next we find him doing a sawmill business, which claimed his attention fourteen years. He was then elected Assessor of Calaveras county, and for seven years served the public in this capacity, and as a public official he has as clean a record as any man in Calaveras county. At the expiration of his time as Assessor he went into the livery business on Main street, Angel's, where he may be found to-day, well equipped and doing a successful business. He has a commodious residence on Main street.

January 14, 1847, Mr. Love was united in marriage with Jane Anderson, a native of Paisley, Scotland. Their only child is Elizabeth, widow of Lewis McGaffey, who died some years ago.

Socially, Mr. Love is prominently connected with the Masons and Odd Fellows; religiously, he is liberal in belief; politically, an intelligent and enthusiastic Republican. Being of a cheerful disposition, he extracts as much pleasure from life as any man; always happy himself, he makes others so.

JOSEPH A. RYDBERG, one of the most estimable of Stanislaus county's citizens, was born at Osthammer, Sweden, March 25, 1844, his parents being John Abel and Theresa (Rosenleaf) Rydberg, the former having died when our subject was nine years of age. Shortly after the death of his father,

in 1853, Joseph Rydberg came to the United States, sailing from Guttenberg on the brig Superior, with his mother, and landing at New York, where they located and where Joseph A. was reared to manhood. As his first employment in life he engaged as errand boy in the wholesale fancy-goods house of Calhoun, Robbins & Co., 410 Broadway, his salary at that time being $50 per year. Subsequently he became a salesman in the establishment, with the consequent increased emoluments.

In 1863 Mr. Rydberg came to California via Panama, the ocean trip on the Atlantic side being accomplished on the steamer Ocean Queen; at Panama he took passage on the Golden Age, and landed at San Francisco September 19, 1863. He remained in the California metropolis about two years, engaged in clerking and keeping books for a Government contractor during most of the time. His mother accompanied him to this State, and she was married at Stockton, in 1854, to William Fitzhugh, who located where our subject now resides, and who built the stone house which is now the family residence; he died here in 1875. Mr. Rydberg left San Francisco in 1864, and joined his mother on the ranch, where his time and attention were engaged until 1870—with the exception of a year spent in San Francisco—in farming and in the stock business. In the year named he went back to New York city and again entered the employ of Calhoun, Robbins & Co., with whom he remained until 1872, when he returned to California. He has ever since resided on the home ranch with the exception of a year, 1883–'84, spent in Oakdale with the firm of Haslacher & Kahn. He has 800 acres of land, situated in Stanislaus and Tuolumne counties, which is splendidly watered by springs and by the waters of Dry creek, which are crystal in their clearness. The place is devoted principally to the stock business, though he farms about 200 acres every year, wheat being the chief crop. On the Tuolumne county portion of the ranch is located Salt spring, the waters of which possess healing qualities for stock and human kind, their virtues having been recognized by the Indians, who availed themselves of the curative properties of the water. This spring is the source of supply of a beautiful little lake.

Mr. Rydberg was married at Dom Pedro's bar, Tuolumne county, on February 1, 1875, to Miss Margaret Donahue, a native of California, born at Dom Pedro's bar, and daughter of James and Annie (Gillick) Donahue. Her father came to California in 1850, from New York city. He bought a piece of property on Sansome street and kept hotel there, but lost his property on account of a flaw in the title, and, becoming discouraged, he went to Tuolumne county and engaged in mining at Dom Pedro's bar. He was for thirteen years superintendent of the La Grange Ditch and Hydraulic Mining Company, but is now engaged in stock-raising. His wife died in December, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Rydberg have five children living, viz.: Therese, James, Edward, Alban and Leo; one is deceased, Eugenia Adelaide. The eldest daughter, Miss Therese, has developed pronounced

musical talent, and is now attending St. Agnes' Academy, where she will graduate in June, 1893, in English and music.

Mr. Rydberg is a Democrat in politics; takes an active interest in public affairs and frequently attends the party conventions as a delegate. In the Democratic convention held in Oakdale May 6, Mr. Rydberg was by acclamation nominated for Supervisor of district No. 1. He is not a member of any organization, but Mrs. Rydberg belongs to Star Lodge, No. 861, Knights and Ladies of Honor, Sonora. Mr. and Mrs. Rydberg are happy in the sincere respect and esteem of a large circle of friends, and in the possession of that greatest of earthly possessions—a home where peace and love reign.

EPHRAIM CUTTING is a pioneer worthy in the highest sense of appropriate mention in this work. He was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, December 12, 1808. After completing a common-school course he clerked in a country store. At the age of twenty-six years he engaged in mercantile pursuits for himself. In 1850 he came via Panama to California, landing in the Golden State July 4. At first he followed mining, and later engaged in the lumber business, and was also largely interested in the Union Water Ditch Company in Calaveras county. He has been very successful financially, and is one of Calaveras county's best citizens. At present he is retired from active business pursuits, and is living quietly in his pleasant home in Murphy's.

Mr. Cutting is a finished scholar. In his fine cabinet may be found some rare specimens. He has been a man of system and method, and his records, which he has faithfully kept for the Signal Service for many years, are a most valuable and interesting part of his most excellent cabinet.

Now, at the age of eighty-three years, his powers of mind and body are unimpaired. He has never married, but has extracted much pleasure from life by his devotion to the study of nature.

JOHN HENRY McCLOSKEY was born in Ireland in April, 1835, a son of Hugh and Essie (De Saix) McCloskey, and the youngest of their four children; the father was a whitesmith by trade. At the age of eight years John Henry was brought to the United States, and in the city of New Orleans learned the carpenter's trade, of which he was master when he finished his apprenticeship. He was also the sole owner of two city lots in New Orleans, which he sold for $700. May 1, 1852, he took passage on the steamer Fanny for California, coming via the straits of Magellan. Tickets to San Francisco were $150 and $300 each; the incidents of this voyage were too numerous to be mentioned in detail in this connection, but port was not reached until April, 1853. Mr. McCloskey remained in San Francisco three weeks, and then went to Yreka, to try his luck at mining. There he was engaged in this industry and carpentry for seven years. He was united in marriage, in 1858, to

Margaret Harrison of St. Louis, and to them two children were born, William De Saix and Henry Harrison. In 1860 Mrs. McCloskey died, and after this sad event he removed to San Francisco. He was engagod in the real-estate business in this city until 1863, when he made a trip to the Eastern States and Europe. Upon his return to California he settled in San José, and there was married to Miss Rhoda E. Furman; they have had five children: Eli Leander, Olive Letitia, Lela Mabol, Mandeville, De Saix and Florence M. In 1869 Mr. McCloskey came to Merced county and located on his present ranch, which consists of 2,200 acres, situated near Plainsburg.

Too much credit cannot be accorded Mr. McCloskey for the masterly way in which he has controlled events in his life. Left at the age of six years an orphan, he was thrown upon his own resources at a tender age. He has lived a life of unquestioned integrity, has accumulated a handsome estate, and has the confidence of the entire community.

SAMUEL M. McLEAN, M. D., senior member of the firm of McLean & Evans, physicians and surgeons, Modesto, California, is one of the well-known pioneers of this State. The history of a career like that of Dr. McLean's would read like a romance and would be a valuable work to put before the public; the Doctor, however, is of a retiring disposition, and at his particular request we refrain from publishing in this edition more than a brief outline of his long and eventful life.

Dr. McLean was born in Charlotte county, Virginia, November 6, 1816. His father, Dr. John McLean, a Presbyterian minister, was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, in 1781, and died in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1851. His paternal grandfather, whose ancestors were from Scotland, located in Guilford county, North Carolina, early in the eighteenth century. Both his paternal and maternal grandsires were patriot soldiers in the Revolutionary war from the beginning to the end of the struggle. They were both in the battle of Guilford, in Company H, under General Greene,—one in the militia of North Carolina, and the other in the Virginia militia. His maternal grandfather, Captain Robert Cobbs, was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain by General Greene, for gallantry in the Guilford battle. His mother's maiden name was Mary Cobbs: she was born in Virginia, her father, Captain Robert Cobbs, was of English descent.

The Doctor is the second and only survivor of a family of five children by his father's first wife. His second wife was Miss Jane Curd, who was born in Cumberland county, Virginia; she bore him two children, who are now living. He began the study of medicine with his father, and continued it under Dr. Jennings, a prominent practitioner of his day, in Nashville, Tennessee, as his medical advisor. He attended lectures in the city of New Orleans, but left for California before completing his course, leaving New Orleans on the bark Mary Waterman, as physician to the ship, on the 14th of November, 1849, rounding Cape Horn, landed

in San Francisco on the 14th of May, 1850, and continued the trip in the same vessel to Stockton, landing there on the 31st day of May, 1850.

He practiced a number of years in Stockton, and moved to Copperopolis, in Calaveras county, in 1863, from which place he moved in 1868 to Tuolumne City, in Stanislaus county; there he remained until Modesto was founded in 1870, where he has resided ever since. He passed an examination by the State Board of Medical Examiners September 4, 1876, and received their certificate endorsing his qualifications, and granted him a license to practice medicine and surgery.

Dr. McLean was married in New Orleans, in 1848, to Miss Ellen G. Jeter, a native of Amelia county, Virginia, who died in Modesto February, 1891, and by whom he has three children living and six deceased. Those living are as follows: Robert A., M. D., professor of chemical surgery in the medical department of the University of California. He resides in San Francisco, where he is actively engaged in his profession; he is the oldest living male child born of white parents at Stockton; his daughter, Mary S., resides with him in Modesto; his youngest son, John T., is also a physician, having graduated from the Medical Department University of California, 1887.

Dr. McLean took an active and prominent part in the vigilant committees of 1852 and 1856. He is an uncompromising Prohibitionist, and has been an earnest and active worker in the temperance cause from his earliest youth. He is a member of the Christian Church of Modesto; he joined the I. O. O. F. in New Orleans in 1848, and is a charter member of Charity Lodge, No. 6, I. O. O. F., Stockton, California.

ROMULO E. BANGS, a prominent and successful farmer residing near Modesto, is a native of Mexico, dating his birth September 29, 1836. He was reared in his native country until a lad some ten years of age, when his widowed mother returned to the United States and located in Kalamazoo county, Michigan. His parents, Samuel and Susan (Payne) Bangs, were both Americans by birth, and trace their lineage to the English. The former was born in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, and his parents on both sides were among the early settlers of Massachusetts. The mother of our subject was a native of Virginia, and was born of American parents who settled in Virginia prior to the Revolution. The father of the subject of this sketch had been in poor health many years before leaving the land of his birth, and sought the climate of Mexico in hopes of regaining his health; but although he lingered there some years, most of his children having been born in Mexico, yet he never fully recovered and finally passed away. In 1847 his wife returned to the United States with her family. She was the mother of seven children, the subject of this sketch being the sixth in order of birth. He was reared to manhood and educated in the State of Michigan, finishing his education in Cedar Park Seminary and Kalamazoo College.

In 1858 he went to Missouri, where he resided some three years, later returning to Kalamazoo county, Michigan, where he remained only a short time, again removing to Douglas county, Kansas, and subsequently he with his brother Vital E. Bangs and his family (whose life sketch appears in this work), crossed the plains to California. In 1868 Mr. Bangs purchased his present farm, which now consists of 480 acres, located four miles north of Modesto, where he carries on general farming and stock-raising. His family consists of a wife and seven children, all of whom are still living. He was married at Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Miss Isabella Taylor, a native of Scotland. Their children are: Vital W., Grace E., Clarence R., Elizabeth J., Georgiana A., Frances J. and Carolina V.

H. F. MEYER, proprietor of the City Market, Oakdale, is a native of Germany, born at Dorum, Hanover, October 6, 1866; his parents being A. F. and Anna (Tolner) Meyer. He attended school from the time he was six till he was fourteen years of age, and in 1881 came to the United States, landing at New York, and thence proceeding to California. On arriving in San Francisco he engaged in work in a grocery store, and was so employed three years. He then started in the butcher business at La Fayette, Contra Costa county, although only eighteen years of age, and was successful. In 1886 he returned to San Francisco, and engaged in the grocery business on the corner of Scott and Sacramento streets, in partnership with his brother Albert, who had also been associated with him in the butcher business. After three years in the grocery trade, he came to Oakdale and started the City Market, succeeding the old Oakdale Market.

He made it a success, and afterward removed to the Emery brick block, the most central location in the town, and has fitted up his shop with the greatest taste and many conveniences at a large expense, and during the summer runs three wagons daily into the country.

He has his own slaughter yards, and does the largest business of the town, his trade also extending ten miles in every direction. Under his able management the business has grown to large proportions, and Mr. Meyer ranks as one of the principal business men in the community.

He was married in San Francisco, April 18, 1888, to Miss Emma Engelbeck, a native of Germany also born at Dorum, Hanover. They have one child, Anna. Mr. Meyer is a shrewd, industrious business man, and, being enterprising as well, he is, of course, successful.

JACOB DRAKE, deceased, a true pioneer of the Golden State, was a man in every respect worthy of honorable mention in the history of Stanislaus county. He was a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Clark county, Ohio, on December 30, 1830, where he was reared and educated until nineteen years of age, when he crossed the

American desert to the then far distant land of California. He first located in Calaveras county and engaged in mining pursuits for one year; then removed to Coos Bay, Oregon, where he followed the carpenter's trade for the next two years, having become familiar with that branch of mechanics prior to leaving his native State.

In 1852 Jacob Drake visited his native State, Ohio, then went to Illinois and married Miss Mary J. Coffee, a native of Tennessee, whose ancestors on the paternal side were Irish, the maternal being of English descent. Their marriage is recorded June 25, 1857. They resided in Illinois until 1863, when Mr. Drake again came West, remaining in Montana one year, when Mrs. Drake joined her husband at the city of Salt Lake, from which place they journeyed to California, locating first near Linden, San Joaquin county, remaining there from May until December, thence removing to Stanislaus county and locating four and a half miles northeast of Modesto, although the city of Modesto did not then exist, Mr. Drake and family being the only inhabitants of this section of the county at that period. He located on 160 acres of Government land, and was perhaps the first man to break the virgin soil and utilize the same to farming purposes. As the population increased Mr. Drake purchased more land and increased his farming interests, until at the time of his death he was considered one of the county's most prosperous and useful citizens, having been identified with the progress and development of the county from the time of location. Politically he was a stanch and steadfast Democrat of the old party principles; although he never held office, he had always taken an active interest in political matters. Socially he affiliated with Stanislaus Lodge, No. 206, F. & A. M., and was buried by that fraternal order. His death occurred on August 15, 1875.

The Drake estate now consists of 480 acres of beautiful farming land, and is all under a high state of cultivation, devoted entirely to grain-raising, the management being under the personal supervision of Mrs. Drake. She resides with her children on the old homestead. Her children's names are Lemuel E., Homer A., Ollie, Zachariah E., Lulu and William Jacob. Elizabeth Frances died October 5, 1860, and Gertrude died June 25, 1875.

PEYTON YOUNG WELCH, one of the venerable pioneers and successful agriculturists of the great Golden State, resides on his fine ranch near Plainsburg, Merced county. He was born in Kentucky in 1821, a son of Peyton and Jemima (Rider) Welch, natives of Virginia; the father was a minister, and for many years a "circuit rider." He and his wife reared a family of six children, of whom our subject is the youngest. In 1847 he went to Missouri, and ten years later he set out to cross the plains, his point of destination being the Pacific slope. May 1, 1857, he left La Fayette county, Missouri, with a company numbering fifty souls; they had encounters with the In-

dians and three men were shot, though not fatally wounded; they lost 300 head of cattle, and were only forty miles from the scene of the Mountain Meadow massacre. They entered California through San Bernardino county, and thence through Los Angeles county to Merced county, where they arrived April 1, 1858, having been on the way eleven months.

Mr. Welch located on Mariposa creek, twenty-two miles from Snelling; here he purchased the claim to 160 acres of land, for which he paid $1,000; he then entered the same. He has since bought 520 acres adjoining this tract, and now owns the entire tract of 680 acres, one and a half miles from Plainsburg. Since coming to the State he has seen the towns of Plainsburg and Merced spring into existence, and the county of Merced transformed from a wild cattle country to a cultivated agricultural district, thickly settled with an industrious, intelligent class of people. He is a practical and successful farmer, and his good judgment is shown by the excellent results of his labors.

While the county seat was located at Snelling he served as Supervisor of his district, and has always taken a deep interest in the growth of the county and the development of her resources. He is a member of La Grange Lodge, F. & A. M., at Merced, and in his political views affiliates with the Democratic party.

Mr. Welch was married in 1842, to Sarah Asploy, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of John Aspley, who was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. To them were born the following children: Lucilus Arthur, of Frosno county; John Simeon of Stockton, and Martha Jemima, wife of Joseph L. Turner. The mother departed this life in April, 1888.

JOSEPH A. NORVELL, as Superintendent of Public Instruction of Merced county, occupies a most important position, and one which he is eminently fitted to fill. A brief outline of his career has been prepared for record in this volume. The subject of this bigraphical sketch was born in Nashville, Tennessee, January 15, 1846. The foundation of his education was laid in the public schools, but later he took a course at the Kentucky Military Institute near Frankfort. At the age of twenty-three years he came to California, and began teaching school at Visalia. For ten years he was prominently identified with the educational institutions of Tulare county, where he did a most efficient work. In 1880 he came to Merced county, and was appointed principal of the Merced city schools.

It was during this time that Mr. Norvell began his career as a journalist; he purchased a one-half interest in the Merced *Express*, in partnership with W. L. Howell; at the end of two years he bought Mr. Howell's interest, and since that time has owned, edited and published the paper; it is an eight-column weekly, devoted to the general news, and staunchly advocating the principles and measures of the Democratic party. The editorials are well written and of a con-

servative tone; the paper has the largest circulation of all publications in the county, and is deserving of the liberal support it receives.

Mr. Norvell was elected County Superintendent of Schools in November, 1886, by 446 majority, and was re-elected to the office in November, 1890, receiving at the last election a majority of 470 votes over his opponent, who was on the faction ticket. He ranks among the first officials of the State as to ability, and his professional bearing has been such as to inspire teachers, students and patrons with the highest regard.

He was married in 1880, to Miss Mollie Slinkard, a native of Mariposa county, and they are the parents of one child, named Louise.

WALTER JAMES MERCER, of Murphy's, California, was born in Salt Lake City, February 11, 1854. His parents, William and Amelia (Stephens) Mercer, came on to California when he was less than six months old.

In early life Mr. Mercer started out as a dairy hand, subsequently working on a threshing-machine, and mining in Alpine county. In 1879 he came to Calaveras county and began gravel-mining at Douglas Flat, where he was successful for two years. In 1881 he engaged with the Ora Plata Company at Murphy's, and while in their employ discovered the cave which has made him famous. The following is taken from his "Description and Guide:"

"The cave was discovered on September 1, 1885, by its present proprietor, W. J. Mercer. He had been prospecting for quartz that day and was returning home, tired and thirsty, when he noticed some bay bushes near a bluff. Thinking to find some water, he made his way to the spot, but, finding no water, sat down to rest. There was a small crevice in the rocks near by, and he noticed the movement of the dry grass, moss and leaves about this opening. Placing his hand to the opening, he found a strong draft of air from below, and dropping a stone into it heard it fall for quite a distance. He then went to the mining company's works, three-fourths of a mile distant, and got tools and candles, and returning proceeded to enlarge the opening. Then he lit his taper and descended about thirty feet. The first thing that caught his eyes was the dependent masses of lichens which hung in groups from ceiling to floor. In the semi-darkness these seemed to be the timbers of a deserted mine. Soon the cavernous nature of his discovery became apparent, and, almost frightened by his boldness, he pushed on and soon came upon some human bones.

"The next day a party was organized to further explore this subterranean wonder. The work was slow and difficult. Soon ladders took the place of ropes, and now substantial stairways with solid railings have taken the place of ladders, so that the cave can be traversed from end to end without difficulty or danger. The cave has been explored to a depth of 150 feet and no bottom found yet, there being another opening to the surface below, where a good draft of air proceeds,

and is believed to bo much more extensive than at present appears. There are nine chambers in all, taking about one and one-half hours to go through, making a circuit of 600 feet, coming out and opening different from the one entered, made artificially by sinking a shaft thirty feet deep.

Among somo of the beauties of the cave are Miner's Blanket, Fairy Grotto, guarded by the Twins, the Diamond Cascade, Giant Pillar, the Demijohn, Angel's Wings (a great wonder, two and one-half feet by seven feet, striped red and whito alternately, one-quarter inch thick), Organ Loft, Devil's Cañon, Golden Fleece, Flower Garden (which is composed of a snow-white, coral-like formation representing every flower known and covering the entiro ceiling), Crystal Chambor, Snow Banks, Bridal Veil Falls, Marie Antoinette's Lace (a snow-white curtain two by five feet and one-sixth of an inch thick), and a thousand other beauties, which to be appreciated must be seen. There are formations in this cave not to be found in any other.

Thousands of visitors go to see this cave every year, and it can be visited at any season of the year. There is a good hotel at Murphy's with every facility for the traveling public. The cave is soon to be lighted by electricity, and will then be most beautiful. It is known as Mercer's New Calaveras Cave, meaning the "new place of skulls or bones."

It is situated about one and one-half miles from Murphy's, and fifteen miles from the Calaveras Big Trees.

In 1882 Mr. Mercer was united in marriage with Maggie Castruccia, a daughter of Angelo Castruccia, a native of Italy. They have two children, Eva and Walter.

In 1885 Mr. Mercer and F. L. Sackett bought the soda works at Murphy's, and are still engaged in the manufacture of cream soda, ginger ale, orange cider, etc., etc. He is an Odd Fellow and a Democrat. His residence is situated on Main street in the pretty town of Murphy's.

WILLIAM WELLS, Postmaster at Mokelumne Hill, California, was born in Ohio in 1826, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Matheney) Wells, he being the third in a family of fifteen children. He learned the carpenter's trade in early life. In 1852 he came to California, making the journey to the Golden State via. the Isthmus route.

He followed mining for five years, and is still interested in mining operations. At one time he owned a canal property at West Point, and sold water for irrigating and mining purposes. He was subsequently engaged in loaning money. From 1862 to 1873 he was in the lumber business. After that he kept a livery stable in Mokelumne Hill fifteen years. At the beginning of President Harrison's administration he was made Postmaster at Mokelumne Hill.

In a financial way Mr. Wells has been very successful. He owns a fine residence surrounded by an evergreen lawn, and fruits and flowers, equal to those in the southern countries. The beauty of the grounds it

should be said, is due to Mrs. Wells, she being a horticulturist of no mean ability.

Mr. Wells was married July 19, 1857, to Mrs. Emma E. Grenn, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of Robert Hamilton Pope. Mrs. Wells is a typical Southern lady, and presides over her home with charming grace, and true hospitality is extended to both friend and stranger. The names of their children are as follows: Charles H., Mr. Wells son; Stella, wife of C. M. Burleson; Mary E., wife of G. C. Pratchner, of Santa Cruz; Samuel J.; and Elsie, wife of L. V. Pattee.

THOMAS J. CARMICHAEL, one of the progressive men of Stanislaus county, was born in Cherokee county, Georgia, near Marietta, on the 11th of November, 1854. His parents were William Marion and Mary Susan (Ragsdale) Carmichael, both natives of Georgia, although his father's people came from North Carolina. Our subject was reared and educated in his native county, and in 1873 came to California, and engaged in ranch work near Stockton. In the following year he came to Stanislaus county, where he has since resided. Here, in 1876, he commenced farming on his own account, on a place about four miles from his present location. He bought the ranch where he now lives, in September, 1881. It comprises 293 acres of good land, all devoted to grain. In addition to this Mr. Carmichael farms other land.

He was married in this county on July 2, 1875, to Miss Mary E. Carver, daughter of the late Albert Gallatin Carver, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume. They have eight children, viz.:, William M., Annie M., Eva A., Albert Gallatin, Thomas Jefferson, Aloysius Maude, Lorenzo Dow, and Mary Catherine.

Mr. Carmichael is a Democrat politically, but is not a politician. His father still resides in Georgia, but his mother died there in 1861.

WILLIAM BROWN, photographer, Modesto, California.—Among the leading business men who have been closely identified with the growth and prosperity of Stanislaus county since 1863, is the above named gentleman.

Mr. Brown is a native of Harrison county, Indiana, born August 12, 1838, the fifth in the family of six children of John and Mahala (Cox) Brown. He was reared in Davis county, Iowa, whither his parents had moved in 1849. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, his ancestors having settled there at an early period in the history of that State. He died in 1863, in California. The mother is a native of West Virginia, having passed her eighty-fourth year; she died December 19, 1891.

In 1862 the Brown family crossed the plains to California, being five months en route. The train with which they traveled consisted at one time of 311 wagons, this large number of emigrants having banded themselves together to better protect them-

selves against the attaeks of hostile Indians, who were nnmerons at that time and were prohably incited to aets of violenee hy the Mormons. Their fears proved to be well founded. Thoy were attacked at Snake river falls and a number of the party were killed; also at other plaeos they had trouble with the Indians. After they had passed through the hostile country the train broke np, many of the emigrants going north to Oregon. The Browns continued their way to California, and after their arrival here loeated at Stockton. A few months later they came to Stanislaus county, in 1863. The snbject of our sketch worked at the carpenter trade for sevoral years and was also engaged in eontracting. In 1872 he learned photography, and for many years earried on the bnsiness sueeessfully. Reeently he has turned the business over to his son, who is a thorough artist and whose work compares favorably with any done in the State. Sinee he came to California Mr. Brown has acquired considerablo property. He is the owner of 850 acres, a grain ranch in Morced county, city property in Modesto, loeated on the corner of Ninth and I Stroets, and also a handsome residence at the corner of Ninth and J Streets.

Mr. Brown was married in Missouri, January 17, 1861, to Miss Lettie Standiford, a native of Indiana. They have three children living, namely: Adner N., William A. and Lulu E. They have two children deceased, Charity, who died in 1863, and Agusta, in 1872.

Mr. Brown is a Republican, although he takes no active part in political matters. He has heen assoeiated with the I. O. O. F. over fifteen years, and also himself and wife hold a membership in tho Rebekah degree of tho order.

W. J. FERREL was horn in Dallas county, Texas, in 1838, a son of Walter Ferrel; his mothor died when he was an infant two weeks old, and a year later his father married again. In 1856 ho assumed the responsibility of his own support, and started to California, making tho journey overland; he left Fort Belknap, May 7, 1856, and arrived at Los Angeles in October following. The noxt spring ho came to Merced county, and for seven years was employed by the month. By economy and wise management he was enahled in 1864 to make an investment in land; he purchasod a ranch of 500 acres, four miles below Snelling, and there he raised tho first cotton produced in this county. He afterwards bought 160 aeres, three miles west of Snolling, and to this ho has since added 800 aeres; the entire traet is devoted to the culture of wheat and barley and yields bountiful harvests. Mr. Ferrel is deserving of great credit for the snecessful mannor in which he has conducted his business: he was reared in the South, and as his father was a slave-owner, ho knew nothing of tho practical features of agricnlture. After eoming to California he began tilling tho soil, guided only hy the knowledge whieh evory day's experienee brought him; ho quickly applied this as opportunity offered,

and to-day is one of the most successful and prosperous farmers in Merced valley.

Mr. Ferrel was married, in 1879, to Miss Fannie Burns, a daughter of John A. Burns, a venerable pioneer of 1853, and they are now the parents of two children: William Jasper and Francis Eugene.

R. F. L. HALLOCK is an old-time miner and perhaps the best recognized authority on geology on the Pacific coast.

Mr. Hallock is a native of Alabama, born July 14, 1835. His parents were Daniel L. and Susan (Culp) Hallock, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. They had seven children. In 1841 the family moved to Arkansas, where the father died in 1848. In 1852 the subject of this sketch started for California across the plains, from the Cherokee Nation. After a hard and eventful journey he reached the Golden State and went to mining on the Feather river, and quartz mining has been his principal occupation ever since. He has been very successful in his enterprises, at times having been in affluent circumstances. He has made some valuable inventions, and has received patents for new methods of blasting. Another invention of his worthy of mention is a process for doing away with smelting with certain class of ores. He has given several exhibitions of its merits in San Francisco and other places. He is interested in a 6,000-feet mine in Plumas county. There is probably not another man in California who understands mining and the nature and formation of minerals better than he.

In politics Mr. Hallock is a Republican, though formerly a Democrat and a slaveholder. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Bear Mountain Lodge, No. 76.

Mr. Hallock was married, in 1862, to Miss Susan Frances Allen, a native of Arkansas. Their children are Elizabeth, wife of John W. Batton; Sarah, wife of Samuel Osborn; and Clay C. Hallock.

FLOURNY GUSTIN POOR, an honored pioneer of 1854, is a native of Clark county, Kentucky, born March 9, 1833, and a son of William and Priscilla (Lane) Poor. The parents were Virginians by birth, and the father was a wealthy planter and slave-owner; their family consisted of three daughters and a son who is the subject of this notice. He remained under the parental roof until he was nineteen years of age, and then started out in the world to make his own fortune. He went to Platte county, Missouri, and was engaged in farming there until 1854. On the 14th day of April of that year, he left Independence, Missouri, with ox teams and a drove of cattle, his destination being the Golden State. He arrived in Stockton October 10 of the same year, having had a long and weary journey. A month later found him near Mt. View in San José valley, where he had employment for six months; thence he went to the redwoods of

San Mateo county and for five years drove ox teams. He then began ranching in Sonoma county, and later was engaged in the livery business at Healdsburg; this he conducted until 1865, when he again went on a ranch; this occupied him until 1872, when he came to Merced county and located on Bear creek; after two years he moved to Merced river and for nine years devoted his time to farming; thence he removed to the Crocker ranch near Merced, which he cultivated three years. In 1885 he located where he now lives, nine miles southeast of Merced, where he is farming three and a half sections of land. On an average two-thirds of this vast territory are in wheat every year, and the entire tract is managed with an admirable intelligence. Mr. Poor is one of the most practical of farmers, and his efforts have met with a generous reward.

He was married, in 1861, to Isabel Irelan, and to them the following children were born: William, John, Henry, Hannah, wife of George Strothers; Arthur and Walter. The mother died in 1878. In 1881 Mr. Poor was married a second time, being united to Mrs. Isabel Haskell, a daughter of John Burns, a most worthy pioneer. By her first marriage Mrs. Poor had two children, Guy and Laura Haskell; by her union with Mr. Poor five children have been born: Annie, who died at the age of ten years; Jessie, Allie, Edna and Pearlie, who was named for Benjamin Pearlie Poor, a gentleman who distinguished himself by wheeling a barrel of apples thirty miles from New Orleans on a bet made during a presidential campaign.

Mr. Poor is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to La Grange Lodge, No. 99, F. & A. M. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.

MRS. NANCY E. HAMILTON.—The lady whose name heads this sketch is the owner of 160 acres of beautiful and valuable farm property, located some eight miles northwest of the city of Modesto, where she carries on general farming. Mrs. Hamilton, with the assistance of her sons, also manages and cultivates 720 acres of rented land adjacent to the home property, the entire tract being devoted to grain growing.

Mrs. Hamilton (*nee* Crow), is a native of Missouri, and dates her birth in Pike county, August 21, 1830. Her parents were Henry and Susan (Reperden) Crow. They were both natives of Kentucky, and among the early settlers of that State. They removed to La Fayette county, Wisconsin, and later settled in Crawford county, Wisconsin, where the subject of this sketch was reared, she being the eldest of a family of six children. May 3, 1855, she was married to Thomas Hamilton, now deceased, who was a native of La Fayette county, Wisconsin, having been born on April 17, 1829. Mr. Hamilton and his young wife emigrated to California in 1856, and located in San Joaquin county, subsequently removing to Washington Territory, and locating in Chehalis county, where Mr. Hamilton died February, 11, 1869.

Mrs. Hamilton returned with her children to California, and located in Stanislaus county. She is the mother of six children, all of whom are living. Their names in order of birth are as follows: Jackson was born in Wisconsin, September 19, 1856; Margaret, now Mrs. Charles E. McDonald, was born in California, October 5, 1858; Henry H. was born in San Joaquin county, October 16, 1860; Mattie B., now Mrs. Albert Shearer, was born in Chehalis county, Washington, February 21, 1862; Thomas was born in Washington on July 24, 1866; Isaac was born in Washington, March 11, 1868.

Mrs. Hamilton, although past sixty years of age, is still hale and hearty, the entire farm being under her management, except 160 acres, which she has recently deeded to her youngest sons, Thomas and Isaac.

G. A. HICKS, who has twice been called by the people of Merced county to fill the office of Recorder, is a native of the State of Missouri, born in 1859. His father, Judge James E. Hicks, is a well-known pioneer of 1849; he mined for a year and a half after coming to the coast, and then returned to Missouri. In 1860 he again came to California, accompanied by his family; they made the journey overland, and were six months en route. Judge Hicks located in Merced county, and followed agricultural pursuits there until he was elected Assessor; he served in this capacity for a term of two years, and was then elected to the office of County Clerk, which he held for ten consecutive years. He is now Justice of the Peace in Merced. E. A. Hicks was educated in the public schools of Merced county and at Christian College, Santa Rosa. When his school days were ended he engaged in one of California's great industries, mining, which he followed for some time; he then had charge of the warehouse at Livingston. In 1887–'88 he was Deputy Assessor under M. D. Wood, and at the expiration of his term he was elected County Recorder, and was re-elected to the office. He received the nomination at the hands of the Democratic party, and was elected by a majority of 237 votes over the Republican nominee; in 1890 he received a majority of 512 votes. He has shown a decided aptitude for work of this character, and has given entire satisfaction to his constituency.

LEWIS L. DENNETT, of the firm of Dennett & Needham, attorneys and counselors at law, Modesto, California, was born in Oskaloosa, Iowa, January 5, 1867. His father, Wesley Dennett, a native of Maine, is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church. The ancestors of the Dennett family were English people who came to America and located in Massachusetts about the year 1777. The mother of Lewis L. was a native of Ohio, and was before her marriage Miss Anna Power. She was descended from one of the old and influential families of Virginia. Her death occurred in 1891. Of their four children the subject of our sketch is the youngest. He came with his parents

to California and located at Napa, where he received his early education. Later he entered the Santa Cruz high school, of which he is a gradnate. Returning East, he stndied law in the University of Michigan, and in 1888 was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of that State. Prior to his going East, Mr. Dennett took a thorough course of study at the University of the Pacific, San José. On his return to California he located at Los Angeles and practiced his profession one year, after which he came to Modesto, and on November 1, 1889, formed the partnership above mentioned. Since that date they have conducted a successful and lucrative practice. Mr. Dennett is a Republican and a stanch advocate of party principles.

HENRY PATISON, of Stanislaus county, post office Oakdale, was born in Marylebone parish, London, England, March 26, 1824. He spent his early boyhood days there, and in 1835 went to South Australia. He was located in the vicinity of Adelaide, engaged at various kinds of work until 1862. In that year he came to the United States on the bark Oregon, landing at San Francisco on the second day of May. He remained there but two days, however, and then went to Victoria, British Columbia, where he spent about six months. Returning to San Francisco, he went soon afterward to Esmeralda, where he followed mining about six months, and then again went back to San Francisco. From there he came to Stanislaus county, and in 1870 pre-empted a quarter section of land, part of the place where he now lives. He also took up a quartor section for a homostead.

Mr. Patison was married in Australia, in February, 1852, to Miss Emma Clare. This union resulted in the birth of three children, namely: Henry Clare, James Clare and Emma Birrell.

HENRY CLARE PATISON, eldest son of Henry and Emma (Clare) Patison, is a native of Adelaide, South Australia, born June 9, 1856. He was but six years of age when he came to the United States, and was reared in California. He was engaged, off and on, for nine years in Tuolumne county, being employed during that time by such well-known men as Judge Rooney, James Burns, William Rushing (now deceased), Joseph Lord, Jerry Hodgison, Lew Gobin and Thomas Northnp.

JOHN H. CARPENTER.—Among the prominent and progressive grain and stock growers of Stanislaus county, California, is the above named gentleman. Mr. Carpenter's mammoth ranch consists of 2,500 acres and is located on the east bank of the San Joaquin river, some fourteen miles southwest of the city of Modesto. Seven hundred and fifty acres of this famous ranch are devoted exclusively to the raising of grain, while the rest is used as a stock range. While he has in the past made cattle-raising a specialty, having numerous herds, the Durham breed predominating, Mr. Carpenter informs us that he intends to turn his attention to the raising of mules, believing there is more money in that industry than in any

other branch of stock-raising. His ranch is one of the oldest and best in the county, and for beauty of situation is unexcelled. Here for over thirty-four years he has made his home.

John H. Carpenter was born in Cornwall, England, January 31, 1827. His parents, Jonathan and Ann (Hoskin) Carpenter, natives of Cornwall, emigrated to America and located in Wisconsin in 1841. Both father and mother are now deceased. In their family of six children, the subject of our sketch is the oldest living: the two oldest are dead. When in his 'teens he worked in the lead mines of Wisconsin, and later served an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade. He then carried on the blacksmith business on his own account until 1850, at which time he had an attack of the California gold fever and crossed the plains to the new El Dorado of the West. Arrived here, he engaged in mining in Calaveras and Tuolumne counties, meeting with fair success. Two years later he established a blacksmith shop at Springfield, Tuolumne county, near Sonora, and continued in business there until 1857, when he permanently settled on his present ranch. In adddition to this property he also owns a residence and town lots in Modesto.

Mr. Carpenter was married in Wisconsin, in 1850, to Miss Elizabeth Wallis, a native of England. They have six children living, all natives of California, namely: William H., Frances E., wife of B. F. Sanders; John W., Annie, Caroline J. and Henrietta L. They also have two deceased, a son and daughter.

In politics he is a stanch Republican. For many years he has been a member of the Board of School Trustees. He states that the Adamsville School District was the first one located in Stanislaus county. Socially, he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, and has filled some of the important official chairs in that order. He is also associated with the Stanislaus County Pioneers. Having resided here so long, Mr. Carpenter is well-known. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of the entire community.

JAMES M. McLEOD, one of the representative farmers of Stanislaus county California, was born in Gallia county, Ohio, September 10, 1846. His parents were Norman and Irena (Gates) McLeod. The father, a native of Virginia and of Scotch extraction, died when James M. was a child; and his mother, born in Ohio, also died before he was six years of age. In their family of eight children the subject of this sketch is the youngest. He received his schooling in Ohio, and was reared to farm life, working his way through life as well as he could until the war, in which he served the Union cause nearly two years, having some rough experiences.

In 1864, Mr. McLeod came to California, landing at San Francisco $40 worse than "broke." Locating in Alameda county, he engaged in sheep-raising until 1869. That year he removed to Stanislaus county and became manager of the Threefall Brother's ranch, remaining thus engaged about ten

years. He then purchased 320 acres of land, five miles east of Oakdale, and has since been farming on his own account. This entire acreage is devoted to the production of grain. He also rents and cultivates a large tract of farming land located on the Stanislaus river, near Oakdale. His present comfortable situation in life he has won by industry and fair means, and he has not an enemy in the world. His word is as good as his bond.

Mr. McLeod was married in Calaveras county, June 10, 1880, to Miss Lou Barber, a native of California. They have two daughters, Laura E. and Lou E. Irena E. died in 1883.

Socially, Mr. McLeod affiliates with the F. & A. M., and the A. O. U. W., of Alameda county.

PALMER BUNKER was born in Genesee county, New York, June 29, 1832. His parents were Thomas and Lydia Bunker. They had a family of seven children, four daughters and three sons, he being the oldest son. At the age of twelve years he started out for himself, and in 1853 came to California, across the plains. He spent one winter in Salt Lake, and reached California July 25, 1854. His first work here was in a blacksmith shop in Stockton. December 25 of that year he went to the mines in Amador county; thence back to Stockton, and followed butchering and ranching three years; thence to Virginia city, Nevada, where he worked in a mill from 1862 to 1868. He then located in Lodi, California, where he conducted a livery business. His next move was to Jackson, and from there he came to Mokelumne Hill, where he has been in the livery business ever since, under the firm name of Veith & Bunker.

He was married in 1876 to Dina Ramsbottums, a native of England. Their children are George, Maud and Anna B.

Mr. Bunker is an Odd Fellow and a Democrat. His residence is on Main street, Mokelumno Hill.

JOHN BOYD COCANOUR, superintendent of the Merced county hospital, is one of the venerable pioneers of California. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, April 15, 1813, a son of John and Mary (Boyd) Cocanour, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. Cocanour is the only child of his parents. At the early age of eleven years he went to New Orleans, and in 1832 to Fort Wayne, Indiana; there he worked at the carpenter's trade until 1850, and in that year came to California via Panama, landing in San Francisco August 12. He spent a very short time in the mines, and soon embarked in the live-stock business on the Merced and San Joaquin rivers. He kept from 8,000 to 10,000 head of cattle on the vast range, but sold his cattle in 1872, and turned his attention to agriculture.

In 1865 he was one of the stockholders of the Merced Woolen Mill, and was one of the

prime movers of the enterprise; the other gentlemen interested in it were Albert Ingalsbee, P. D. Wigginton, William Nelson and I. Jacobs. He was also an active worker in the interests of the Madera Flume in Fresno county. He is a man of broad public spirit, and has bent his energies to aid in the development of the resources of the county.

Mr. Cocanour was married in 1877 to Miss Mary E. Mitchell, a native of Kentucky, and they are the parents of three children: Mary Alma, John Roy and Joe Cleveland. Mr. Cocanour held the office of county Supervisor for a period of fourteen years. He is a charter member of Willow Lodge, No. 121, I. O. O. F. He joined the Grand Lodge in Fort Wayne in 1841, and has been a member of the body since that time. He is one of Merced's most highly honored and respected citizens.

SAMUEL LOVE, one of the well-known citizens of Modesto, Stanislaus county, was born near Picton, Prince Edward county, Ontario, Canada, on August 8, 1836. His parents were Samuel, Sr., and Mary (McCormick) Love, both natives of the north of Ireland. Our subject was reared in his native county, where he learned the trade of carpentry. He resided there continuously until 1865, when he went to Chicago, remaining there until 1868, when he returned to his home, which he again left for California in the spring of 1869. Here he spent fifteen months, spending most of the time at Vallejo, Solano county, and four months at Santa Cruz. He again returned to his home at Picton in June, 1870, where he was engaged as a contractor and builder until 1878, when he returned to California, locating in Modesto in September, 1879. After working a while at the carpenter's trade and becoming acquainted here, he engaged in the business of contractor and builder, in which he continued until 1887. In March of that year he embarked in the livery business, in which he has since been engaged, conducting a well equipped establishment.

Mr. Love was married at Picton, Canada, on the 18th of December, 1860, to Miss Mahettahle C. Hubbs, a native of Prince Edward county, Ontario. They have eight children: E. Maude and John K., born in Canada; Margaret Eva, born in Chicago; Joseph H., Laura May, Thomas Edwin and Gertrude, born in Canada; and Veva, born in Modesto.

Mr. Love affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, and is a supporter of the Southern Methodist Church, of which his wife is a member. He took out naturalization papers in 1884, and is identified with the Democratic party, having cast his first vote for Cleveland.

His parents had nine children, two of whom are deceased; those living are Thomas, William, James, Samuel, George, John R. and Alexander. Thomas came to California in the spring of 1868, but afterward returned to Canada, and is now a resident of Picton, Ontario. William also came to California in 1868, and is now a resident of Stanislaus

county, where he is an extensive farmer, cultivating 4,000 acres on the west side. James is a resident of Picton. Samuel is the subject of our sketch. George is a farmer, residing in Prince Edward county, Ontario, about seven miles from Picton. John R., who is now a resident of Oregon, was the first one of the family to come to California. Alexander resides at Milford, Prince Edward county, Ontario, sevon miles from Picton.

GEORGE ALBERT HAYES is a venerable and well-known pioneer of 1849. He is a native of tho State of Maino, born November 6, 1820, a son of George A. and Mary (Irvino) Hayes. The father was a soafaring man, and was lost on the deep when George A. was a young child. There were four children in the family of whom our subject was the second-born. At the age of ten years he went to sea as cabin boy, and was in the course of time made second mate. In 1841 he went on a whaling expedition to the northwest coast of the Galapagos islands, and was goue forty-seven months and fifteen days. Returning to Boston in 1845 he worked at the cooper's trade until 1849, but before the end of the latter year he set sail for California, via Cape Horn, on the ship Ariottas; the voyage was made withiu five months, Mr. Hayes arriving in San Francisco in August. The first two years were spent in the miues, after which he went into the hotel business in Mariposa. In 1852 he spent three months in a silver expedition, and then took up a ranch on Merced river, near Snelling. At this time his wife, who had remained in the East, joined him, and they began keeping hotel at Mariposa. In 1856 they were overtaken by a severe calamity, all their property being swept away by fire. Later Mr. Hayes built a hotel, which he managed until 1861. For several years he had from six to eight hotels in charge, and operated them all very satisfactorily. Having unusual ability in the management of largo institutions, he was selected to take the care of the Mariposa County Hospital, a position he filled with much credit for three years. At the end of this period he was made superinteudent of the Merced County Hospital, and discharged the duties of this office for three years.

In 1880 he purchased a section of land one mile south of Athlone station, to which he has since added another section, and has ever since been engaged in the raising of live stock and butchering, and the same success that attended him in his earlier efforts has followed him in these new industries.

Mr. Hayes was married in 1861, to Miss Jean M. Graham, and of this union five children were born: George Harper, deceased; William Henry, George Albert, Jean A. and Walter G. Mr. Hayes is probably one of the oldest Odd Fellows in the county, having become a member of Eagle Lodge, No. 2, at Providence, Rhode Island, in 1845. He was a member of Mariposa Lodge, No. 39, and he is a charter member of Hornitos Lodge, Mariposa county. He was one of eighteen who organized the Rephblican party

in Mariposa county in 1856, voting for J. C. Fremont. He has always been prominent in those movements which have tended to the developments of the county and advance of the people, and to such men as he is the present glory of the Golden State due.

ELBRIDGE GUERY RECTOR is so closely connected with the political history of Merced county that the following space will be devoted to an outline of his personal career. A native of the State of Tennessee, he was born in Sevier county, February 19, 1816, the oldest of a family of five children. His parents, Konner Avery and Elizabeth (Randals) Rector, were natives of Virginia and Tennessee respectively. He received his education in the subscription schools that were taught in the primitive log schoolhouses of pioneer days. On the first day of the year 1835, he left the parental roof, and set out for Texas. The following year he joined the Texas army, and at the battle of San Jacinto he was twice wounded. In 1846 he again took up the life of a soldier, enlisting in Colonel Jack Hays' regiment; for three months he served as a spy, at the end of which time he returned to Texas.

When the tide of emigration began flowing strongly to the Pacific coast, Mr. Rector started with a pack of mules for California, and arrived at Mariposa November 14, 1849; there he was engaged in mining until 1853, when he turned his attention to farming.

He has the distinction of being the first clerk of Merced county, an office which he held for seven years. In 1864 he was elected Sheriff and filled the office two years. In 1868 he went to Stanislaus county and followed agriculture until 1870, when he removed to Mariposa county; here he resided until 1877, and then went back to Texas, farming until 1882. In this year he came back to California, and was deputy County Treasurer one year. In 1888 he was elected County Treasurer and served a term of two years. In every official position to which he has been called he has discharged his duties with marked ability, serving always the best interests of his constituency.

Mr. Rector was married in 1860 to Amanda M. McFarland, a native of Alabama and a daughter of Robert and Catharine McFarland. They are the parents of five children: William Fielding, Thomas Blackstone, Elbridge Nelson, Mary E. and Laura. Mr. Rector is a member of the Masonic fraternity. As an official and as a citizen he enjoys the highest esteem of the community, having made a record with which no fault can be found.

OSCAR E. SMITH, one of the prosperous young men of the West Side, was born in Fayette county, Iowa, in 1861. He is a son of Samuel A. Smith, a sketch of whose life appears on another page in this work.

Oscar was educated at the public schools in Solano and Merced counties, and began business for himself in 1883, when he pre-empted

160 acres of land adjoining the present thriving town of Los Baños. His land is all under the canal and is as productive as any in the State. He has seventy acres planted with alfalfa, which yields four crops a year. He is also engaged in the stock business, and has as fine a lot of horses, mules and cattle as are to be found in the country.

He was married in 1883, to Miss Amy E. Hunt, a native of Minnesota, a daughter of William H. and Rebecca Hunt. Of five children, three are living: Clarence, Letha and Ruth; Noble and Harvey are deceased.

Mr. Smith is an active worker in the Farmers' Alliance, which was organized at Los Baños, 1890. He is an intelligent and earnest supporter of the principles of temperance, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

GEORGE W. THOMASON, of Merced Falls, is a native of the Blue Grass State, born in Christian county, April 7, 1837. His parents, Garrison and Lucinda (Burnett) Thomason, were natives of Georgia and Kentucky, respectively; they had a family of seven children.

In 1840, they removed to Benton county, Missouri, and Mr. Thomason engaged in farming there until 1846; in that year he entered the Mexican war, and died while in the service at Santa Fé. George W. was educated in the primitive log schoolhouse, and at the age of twenty-one years he started out to seek his own fortune.

He engaged in agricultural pursuits in Missouri until 1860, when he came overland to California. He first pre-empted 160 acres of land two miles from the Merced river, and later he homesteaded another quarter section adjoining the first. All his land is good farming land. He has been very prosperous and has accumulated considerable property; he owns 800 acres of fine pasture land, two miles north of Merced Falls; more than 200 acres of this lie along the river, and are devoted to agriculture.

Mr. Thomason was married April 3, 1859, to Margaret Thomas, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of John and Margaret Thomas, who were natives of Virginia. Of this union nine children were born; Mary, who died at the age of twenty-two; Georgia, wife of Thomas Gilbert, of Los Angeles; Thomas, who died at the age of sixteen years; Rosa, wife of C. E. Blanchard; Annie, wife of Walter Fields, of Merced county; Dollie, William, Katie and James. Mr. Thomason is a prominent member of Willow Lodge, No. 121, I. O. O. F. Politically, he is a strong and intelligent supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.

GEORGE WILLIAM WALTHER, one of Stanislaus county's substantial representative men, is a native of Germany, born near Wiesbadon, Hesse-Nassau, August 27, 1824, his parents being John George and Elizabeth (Bender) Walther, the father a farmer. Our subject was reared at his native place and attended school between the age of six and fourteen. He then learned the

weaver's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years and following that trade off and on for eleven years. After that he followed various vocations, among them, those of farming, working on roads, in timber, etc.

In 1852, Mr. Walther came to America, proceeding from home to Mayence, thence to Liverpool, and from there on the Yorkshire, a sailing vessel, to New York. He only remained in the American metropolis over night, and the next day continued his way westward, going as far as St. Louis, Missouri. For about two years he worked on farms in the vicinity of that city, and in 1854 came to California, making the journey across the plains and traveling in company with a cattle train as far as Ogden. From there he proceeded by way of the Humboldt and Carson route into California, and to Knight's Ferry by way of Volcano.

He arrived at Knight's Ferry on the 10th of September, and stopping there engaged in mining for about a year, meeting with fair success, but spent the money he made in irrigating ditches. After this he teamed for a while and ran a milk ranch. While he had no land of his own, he fenced in a tract of Government land to hold it, as it was not then subject to entery. In 1868 he took up 160 acres, and when he had proved up on it took up a homestead of 160 acres, on which he now lives. He has since increased his possessions until now he has 680 acres in the home ranch and 1,257 acres more, situated about six miles from his home. He is engaged to some extent in stock-raising, but principally farming, his attention being given mostly to wheat, though barley forms quite an important item in his crop.

Mr. Walther was married in Germany to Miss Jeanette Kaiser. They have four children, namely: Charles A., Elizabeth, William and Jeanette. Politically, Mr. Walther is a Democrat. He is an active, energetic man, who has made a success in life through his own efforts, and hence is deserving of credit for what he has accomplished.

HASLACHER AND KAHN.—This firm, since its establishment in Oakdale, has rapidly risen in prominence, until now it ranks as one of the leading houses of the State. It is composed of Jacob Haslacher and Louis Kahn, whose first business experience in this community was in the mercantile line, their store being located in Oakdale. Finding the opportunities and necessities of the grain business demanded attention, they embarked in that trade, and now have twelve warehouses for the convenient handling of their business, located along the line of railroad between Farmington and Montpelier. Among the conveniences owned by the firm is forty miles of telephone line, which is used for the purpose of communication between their central office, in the Bank of Oakdale building, and their various branch establishments, from which the superintendents report each day by telegraph. The extent of their grain business and the amount of money distributed by the firm in the community is shown by the statement that their annual payments for grain range from $500,-

000 to $750,000. This firm is also interested in large land holdings, which it is placing on the market for purchase by settlers. Their policy is to purchase large tracts, and then improve them more or less, and lay them out in lots to suit purchasers, thus settling up the surrounding country. Their addition to Oakdale, of 300 acres, in its subdivided form, has been nearly all sold, and they have brought in many Eastern people and other desirable settlers. On the Oakdale side of the Stanislaus river they have already cut up about 1,000 acres. They are also largely interested in the ownership and management of the Oakdale Irrigation Company, and the Waterford Land and Development Company, both of which are mentioned in separate articles.

J. HASLACHER, President of the bank of Oakdale, California, is a native of the Empire State. He was born September 24, 1842, the fourth in the family of eight children of Aaron and Babbett (Lengsfeldt) Haslacher, both natives of Bavaria. The father died in 1871. The subject of our sketch was reared in New York. At the age of sixteen he began clerking, receiving a salary of $1.50 per week. In 1857 he went to Selma, Alabama, where he remained some eighteen months, clerking in a general merchandise house. From there he returned to New York, thence to Missouri, and in 1861 to Washington, District of Columbia. In 1862 he came to California, via Panama, on the steamers Northern Light and Golden Gate. From San Francisco he directed his course to Knight's Ferry, where he engaged in clerking for the firm of Honigsberger & Lengfeld. Four years later he purchased the interest of Mr. Honigsberger, and for seven years the business continued under the style of Lengfeld & Co., with Mr. Haslacher as manager. He then associated himself with his present partner, Mr. L. Kahn, in the general merchandise business at Oakdale, doing a successful business in that line until 1888, when they sold out. The following year the bank of Oakdale was established, with a capital stock of $150,000. From its inception it has been a success, and at this writing it is one of the most flourishing and prominent banking institutions in Stanislaus county. Mr. Haslacher has been thoroughly identified with the growth and advancement of the county, especially that portion of it in which Oakdale is situated, for many years. He is one of the stockholders and directors of the Oakdale Irrigation Company. He is always among the first to encourage any enterprise, public or private, which has for its purpose the building up of the county. Another company in which he figures prominently is the Stanislaus Warehouse Company, of which he is president. He is owner of thirty acres of land near Oakdale, which he has planted to olives, walnuts and almonds. Mr. Haslacher was married in Stockton, California, January 16, 1878, to Miss Fannie Honigsbergor, a native of this State. They have two children, Alfred and Beatrice.

Politically, he is a Democrat. Socially, he affiliated with Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F.

& A. M. He has passed all the chairs in the blue lodge and is at this time Worshipful Master. He is also connected with the Council and Chapter. He holds a membership in the I. O. O. F. at Stockton, and has passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodge.

LOUIS KAHN, of the firm of Haslacher & Kahn, was born in Baden, Germany, March 20, 1855. He received the advantages of a higher course of education, attending college to the age of seventeen years. He then came to America, and, proceeding westward, located for a time at Austin, Nevada. He next went to Helena, Montana, where he remained until 1877, engaged in mercantile life. From there he came to California, and was located at Oakland until 1880. Then he came to Oakdale and since that time, in connection with his partner, Mr. Haslacher, has truly accomplished wonderful results. His connections with the Bank of Oakdale, with the improvement of the town, with the Oakdale Irrigation Company, with the vast grain and warehouse business, with the Waterford Land and Development Company, are all told in separate articles in the proper portion of this volume.

Mr. Kahn is Treasurer of Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F. & A. M.; is a member of Modesto Chapter, No. 49, R. A. M.; of Stockton Council, R. & S. M.; of Homo Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Stockton; is Treasurer of Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F.; Treasurer of Ridgely Encampment, No. 68, Oakdale; Accountant of Canton Manchester, No. 8, Patriarchs Militant, Oakdale, and Major in the Canton.

Mr. Kahn is a man of family. He was married at Stockton, August 18, 1880, to Miss Celia Frankenheimer. They have three children, namely: Joseph, Rheta and Bertha. Mr. Kahn comes of a long-lived family. His father was Daniel Kahn, and his mother's maiden name was Fannie Hirschfelder.

TRAMMELL.—Among the substantial and progressive farmers of Stanislaus county, California, is the gentleman with whose name we head this notice.

Mr. Trammell is a native of Arkansas, and dates his birth at Fayetteville, Washington county, June 4, 1848. His father, John Trammell, was a native of Illinois, the family being early settlers of that State. He died in 1861. The mother, Martha (Anderson) Trammell, was a native of Tennessee, and the mother of seven children, the subject of this sketch being the second-born. He was reared and received his education in the State of his nativity, and entered the Federal army in 1862, being a private in the First Arkansas Cavalry; was in several engagements, and served till the close of the war.

After being mustered out of the service, Mr. Trammell went to Texas, where he engaged in the stock business some two years; thence to California in 1873, locating in Stanislaus county, near Waterford. He has followed farming ever since he came to the

State. In 1883 he rented 1,500 acres of land six miles southeast of Waterford, where he still resides. He devotos 1,000 acres to grain, the rest being utilized for summer fallow.

He was married in Stanislaus county to Miss Agnes Andker, a native of Denmark. They have four children, viz.: Anna, Althea, Mamie and Clarence. Miss Lulu, the eldest daughter, is the offspring of a formor marriage.

Mr. Trammell is a Repnblican, and in a local way has been of mnch service to his party. He has served the county as Deputy Sheriff under a Democratic administration, and was the choico of his party as candidate for the office of Sheriff against tho present incumbent. Socially he affiliates with the I. O. O. F., also with the encampment degree of the order at Modesto, and is a member of the G. A. R.

GEORGE H. GOLDEN, City Clerk of Modesto, California, dates his birth in Baltimore, Maryland, September 25, 1851. He was the fifth-born in the family of six children of William and Mary (Myer) Golden. His father is a native of Germany, and came to America in 1849. His mother was born in Maryland, and is now deceased. At the age of ten years George H. was sent to Enrope. He entered Jena University, and after remaining in that institution seven years graduated, in 1867. He then returned to Baltimore, and a year lator came to California. Locating at Moore's Flat, Nevada county, he there accepted a sitnation as bookkeeper for the firm of Hagerty & Co., dealers in general merchandise, and remained with them somo eighteon months. After that he spent eight months with a party of Government surveyors in Montana and Dakota, and at the end of that time became Government interpreter at the Standing Rock agency, and tho Little Missouri, in tho Bad Lands of Dakota. He romained in tho omploy of the Government many years. The past eight years he has lived at Modesto, and during this period has been engaged in various occupations. He has served as Clerk of the Board of City Trusteos eighteen months.

At Modesto, November 5, 1885, he was joined in marriage with Miss Mary Mahony, a native of California and a daughter of John B. Mahony, a pioneer of '49. Mr. and Mrs. Golden have three children, viz.: Goorge C., Algie M. and William.

Mr. Golden's political views are in harmony with Democratic principles, and he is always to be found allied with tho progressive clement of his party. As a citizen he is highly esteemed by all who know him.

MARTIN V. BYRUM, deceased.—The above named gentleman was one of Stanislaus county's prominent and progressive citizens. He was born in Jackson county, Missouri, July 22, 1835, and was reared and schooled in his native State. His father, Ely Byrum, was of Froneh extraction, and a native of Alabama; he diod

in 1843. His wife, mother of our subject, was Lydia (West) Byrum. She was born in Missouri and died in 1842. The subject of our sketch crossed the plains to California in 1853. He settled in Stanislaus county, and was a vaquero in the early fifties. He afterward located in Stag valley and engaged in farming, and in 1862 settled on a farm near Salida, which is now occupied by the family. This farm consists of 800 acres, all devoted to grain-growing, besides raising horses and mules for ranch purposes, and is under the management of Mrs. Byrum. A portion of the estate is located near Oakdale, consisting of 400 acres, also grain land, but a large portion being now planted to fruit.

Mr. Byrum in life took an active interest in all matters of county development, and had been identified with many of its public enterprises. He was also active in political matters, and was identified with the progressive wing of the Democratic party. His death occurred January 2, 1892.

He was married in Stanislaus county, September 12, 1867, to Miss Margaret E. Feagins, a native of Missouri, having been born in La Clede county of that State, March 30, 1847. She was a daughter of Pleasant R. and Elizabeth (Jones) Feagins, who were natives of North Carolina, and who crossed the plains to California in 1852. The family located in San Joaquin county, afterward moving to Stanislaus. The father died November 1, 1867, and the mother on March 20, 1882. Both Mr. and Mrs. Feagins were descendants of colonial ancestors who fought in the Revolutionary war for our independence.

Mrs. Byrum was educated at the Cumberland Presbyterian College of Sonoma, Sonoma county, California, being the fourth of a family of nine daughters, of whom she is the eldest now living. Her children are named as follows, Bessie L.; Edith B. (now Mrs. James McGinn), a resident of Stanislaus county; Lillian F., wife of J. M. Rothenberger, of Kansas City, Missouri; Elbert H., Estella F., Winifred E., Leland C., and Margaret M. Martin V. died December 2, 1883, and Josie B., on November 21, 1883.

JOHN V. DAVIES.—Among the beautiful farms on the south bank of the Tuolumne river, in Stanislaus county, is one located nine miles south of Modesto, that is owned and occupied by the gentleman whose name heads this biography. Mr. Davies is one of the substantial farmers and stock-raisers of the county. His ranch comprises 800 acres of fine land, used chiefly as a grain and stock farm, and he is giving much attention to the raising of horses and mules.

John V. Davies was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, June 18, 1839. His parents, John and Elizabeth (Vincent) Davies, were natives of Cornwall, England. The father's death occurred in 1870. They had only two children, of whom John V. is the youngest. The family crossed the plains to California in 1852, and located in Tuolumne county. A short time afterward they removed to San Francisco, where they remained until 1854. That year they located on a farm near An-

tioch, Contra Costa county. In 1860 the family came to Stanislaus county and located on his present farm, and here he has since resided. May 15, 1879, he was joined in marriage with Mrs. Katherine V. Quisenburry, *nee* Price, a native of Missouri. They have two children living: Thomas H. and Emma B. John F. is deceased. Mrs. Davies has two sons by her former marriage: Jackson A. and Robert L. Quisenburry.

Mr. Davies is a member of the Methodist Church of Westport. He is Sunday-school superintendent and a local preacher. For the past fifteen years he has been a member of the board of school trustees of Laird district, township No. 4.

M. E. STROTHER, one of the substantial farmers of Stanislaus county, was born at Richmond, Kentucky, December 4, 1841, his parents being Samuel and Ann (Wright) Strother. The father, a native of Virginia, went to Kentucky at an early day, and died in California in 1874, while on a visit. The mother was born in Kentucky, and died in that State in 1870.

Our subject was the third in age of nine children. He was reared and educated in his native State, and became a clerk in a grocery store. When, in 1861, the war broke out, he entered the Confederate service as a member of Morgan's command, and followed that noted leader in his earlier campaigns. Among the engagements in which he took part were those of Knoxville and Richmond, Kentucky. He was captured by Federal troops, and was in prison four months at Island No. 10. Being exchanged, he again entered the service, and bore his part throughout the great struggle. In 1869 he came to California, being a passenger on the first through train after the railroads were opened through to the Pacific. Coming to Stanislaus county, he worked at farm work for others for seven months, when he commenced work on his own account. His ranch of 480 acres is located three miles northeast of Salida, and is devoted to grain-growing. He also farms 800 acres near Lockeford, in San Joaquin, and altogether carries on ranching on quite an extensive scale.

Mr. Strother was married in Stanislaus county, October 3, 1869, to Miss Ella Feagins, daughter of Pleasant R. and Elizabeth (Jones) Feagins, who came to California in 1852, and who are mentioned more at length in connection with other articles in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Strother have seven children, viz.: Annie E., Bertha L., Robert L., Willie E., Ella R., Alfred R., Ora L., Annie E. (now Mrs. R. F. Miller, of Stanislaus county), Bertha (now Mrs. M. L. Toombes, of San Joaquin county).

Mr. Strother is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. Politically he is a Democrat, and takes an active interest in public affairs.

MRS. H. S. MATTESON.—Amidst the beautiful and valuable farm property of Sanislaus county, is that owned by Mrs. Matteson, located near the Tuolumne river, some eight miles southeast of the city

of Modesto. This farm consists of 375 acres, principally devoted to grain-growing; sixty acres, being bottom land, is utilized mostly as pasture and grazing land for the ranch stock. This farm is under her management, assisted by her two sons.

Mrs. Matteson, *nee* Clark, is a native of Otsego county, New York, and was born in 1835. Her parents, Elijah and Eliza (Brazee) Matteson, were natives of Massachusetts and New York, respectively. Her maternal ancestors were Hollanders and among the first settlers of New York city. Mrs. Matteson's parents were pioneers of Wisconsin, removing to that State in 1845, and it was there that she grew to womanhood. It was there she met and married Henry S. Matteson, now deceased, who was born in Oswego county, New York, in 1825, the marriage taking place at Omro, Winnebago county, Wisconsin, October 24, 1850. Twelve years afterward, in 1862, they embarked for California, via Panama, in the steamer Young America, transferring to the steamer Herman, at Panama, taking passage to California, and locating in Stockton, where Mr. Matteson engaged in manufacturing and machine blacksmithing for some three years. Later he removed six miles from the city on the Mariposa road, where he carried on farming until 1868, when he removed to Stanislaus county, and purchased the property known as the "Lone Tree" ranch, some three miles northwest of Modesto. Some four years ago he sold out and came to the present farm, where Mr. Matteson died, February 28, 1891.

Mrs. Matteson has raised nine of thirteen children, viz.: Don P., now married and residing near Modesto; Albert H., married, resides near the homestead; Fannie E., now Mrs. T. C. Kenyon, lives in Monterey; Elta M., now Mrs. George Howell, lives in Lathrop; Laura A., wife of Matthew Hall, is a resident of Stockton; while Charles A., George K., Nollie M. and Lottie L. reside with their mother. The four deceased children were Julia M., died July 10, 1882; Rose V., died May 4, 1872; Edward E. died in January, 1875; and Adelmer died in infancy.

GEORGE W. HALSTEAD was born in Hillsdale county, Michigan, in 1841, a son of G. W. Halstead, deceased. His father was a native of the State of New York, and in 1849 he crossed the plains to California, worked at mining, the following year he returned to the East, and two years later he came back to California, accompanied by his family. He lived in Stockton until 1854, when he pre-empted a tract of land near Snelling, which he cultivated until 1867. In 1856 he was elected Treasurer of Merced county, and held the office until 1865. He married Elmira Kellogg, and to them were born five sons and a daughter; the father died in 1883, at the age of seventy-six years; the mother died April 17, 1892, when seventy-six years and three months old. George W. came with his parents to the Golden State in 1852, and for a time lived in Stockton where they kept the Joe Daviess Hotel. After their removal to Snelling he worked on a farm,

and became well trained in all the details of agriculture. In 1868 he purchased a blacksmith shop, and worked at the trade until 1885. He owns an interest in the Snelling livery stables, and some valuable residence property.

Mr. Halstead was united in marriage in 1866 to Miss Eugenia H. Latour, of Paris, France, a daughter of Henry Latour, a well-known pioneer. Three children have been born of this union: Georgiana, Mary Adell and Eugene Henry. Mr. Halstead is a member of Willow Lodge, No. 121, I. O. O. F., and is the present secretary of that body. He has filled the office of D. D. G. M. on several different occasions, meriting the approbation of his brothers. He is a man of strict integrity of character, and a citizen of whom Merced county may well be proud.

CHARLES W. SMITH, ex-Supervisor of Merced county, was born in Marion county, Illinois, in 1846, and is a son of Martin M. Smith. He was reared on a farm and educated at the district schools. When seventeen years of age he began railroading as brakeman on the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad, and continued at this for four years. In 1866 he came to California, locating in Napa county, where he was engaged in farming until 1871. From here he went to Hill's Ferry, where he engaged in stock-raising for seven years. In 1878 he came to Merced county and located where he now resides, two miles east of Volta. Here he owns a fine homestead and is one of the prosperous citizens of the county.

During 1889–'90 he served as Justice of the Peace for District No. 3, and previous to this, in 1886–'88, served as Supervisor of his district. He has been School Trustee of Monroe district for thirteen successive years, and is at present Clerk of the School Board.

Mr. Smith was married in California in the year of 1874 to Miss Dora Robison, daughter of Milo F. Robison, a well-known pioneer of '53. They have three children: Flora May, Martha Mabel and Lela Gertrude.

Mr. Smith is an enterprising, public-spirited man, and has been prominently identified with the improvement of the West Side. He is at the present time engaged in the real-estate and insurance business in the town of Volta.

JOHN HUBBEL, wine and liquor dealer, Oakdale, California, is one of the representative business men of the town. He is a native of Germany, born March 11, 1846, and is the second of six children, born to John and Margaret (Blume) Hubbel, also a native of Germany. He received his education in the old country, and was there reared to the baker's trade.

In 1865 he bade his native home farewell, visited all the principal cities of southern Germany and Switzerland, then returned through France, Belgium, Holland, to the north of Germany, Bremen and Hamburg on the 5th of December, 1865. He left for England, and remained in the city of London till July 1, 1868. From there he emigrated to Canada; his first location was the city of Toronto; then afterward visited Milwaukee,

Saint Paul, and located in the city of Chicago, where he engaged in business until 1870, when he removed to New York, and later to Scranton, Pennsylvania. Four years afterward he came to California, and for a number of years carried on business at Santa Barbara. There, in 1876, he became an American citizen, and in the same year espoused in marriage Miss Barbara Kleatz, a native of Pennsylvania. He and his wife have an interesting family of three children: Frank, Harvey and John.

In 1883 Mr. Hubbel moved to Oakdale, and purchased town property. He is now the owner of considerable business and residence property in this flourishing city. He subsequently engaged in the liquor trade, which he still conducts. In all matters of business he is just and honorable; is not of a speculative turn; cares little for notoriety; has never held office and is independent in politics. Socially he has been identified with the F. & A. M. and the I. O. O. F.

JULIEN MOUROT.—Among the leading architects of Stanislaus county, the name of this gentleman stands prominent. He has designed and built a number of handsome residences and business blocks in Modesto, among which may be mentioned the residences of Henry Voight, Willis Bledsoe, I. E. Gilbert, Dr. C. W. Evans, etc., and the business blocks of Wood & Turner, William Grant, H. Christ, etc. He made important changes in the original plans of the Tynan block, and is the designer of the Stanislaus County Hospital and Almshouse, a magnificent two-story frame edifice, now completed at Modesto, at a cost of $15,000. In making the design and specifications for this structure, Mr. Mourot was thrown in competition with fourteen of the leading architects of the State, and the fact that his design was accepted over all others speaks well in his favor.

Mr. Mourot was born in Randolph county, Illinois, June 15, 1841, and was reared in his native State, receiving his education in the public schools. His parents were Julien and Mary O. (Dannie) Mourot, the former a native of France and the latter of Illinois, her people going thence from Canada. In their family of six children he was the oldest. Having finished his education, he soon decided on his profession and entered the office of a leading firm and began the study of architecture, which he completed in the office of Hodges & Mason, of Belleville. In 1864 he went to Idaho, crossing the plains, and followed his profession in Idaho city, at the same time being deeply engaged in placer mining, which consisted of extensive hydraulic and under-ground mines and ditches, until 1877, when he came to California. The first year after coming to this State he was engaged in building quartz mills in Calaveras county. He went to Merced in 1878, and the following year located in Modesto, where he soon built up and has since enjoyed a good business.

June 26, 1881, he was joined in marriage with Miss Jennie James, a native of California and a daughter of James W. James, a pioneer of 1850.

In political matters, Mr. Mourot is an active Democrat. Socially, he affiliates with Stanislaus Lodge No. 206, F. & A. M.; Wildey Lodge, No. 149, I. O. O. F.; Modesto Encampment, No. 48; Modesto Lodge, No. 81, K. of P., and Modesto Grove, No. 34, U. A. O. D., all of Modesto, and No. 16, Heroes of Mesopotamia, San Francisco. He has passed the chairs in all these orders save the first named.

HENRY F. SALAU was born in Germany June 3, 1835, and is the third child of John F. and Mary Salau. He attended the public schools until he was sixteen years old, and the following year went to sea as a cabin boy. He was for four years a seafaring man and was promoted to the position of second mate. In the year of 1852, he came to New York, and took out naturalization papers. He was afterward employed for a couple of years in the United States navy, from 1862 to 1864. Three years afterward, in 1867, he embarked for California, via the Isthmus. Here he engaged in farming in Santa Clara county, until 1869, when he came to Merced county and pre-empted a claim and homestead near Los Baños, where he now owns 800 acres of fine agricultural land, three and a-half miles west of Los Baños.

In 1866, he was married, in Germany, to Miss Dorothea Salau, and the following year, 1867, sailed from Hamburg to Liverpool and thence to New York, from where he went to Aspinwall and overland to Panama, and then to San Francisco. They have five children, Angusta, wife of Mathias Baker; Adolphus, Mary, Louis and Doretta.

Mr. Salau may truthfully be said to be one of Merced county's best citizens. He is upright and honest in his dealings, and is universally respected.

CARROLL McTARNAHAN, County Surveyor of Tuolumne county, is one of California's native sons. He was born at Placerville, March 27, 1864. In 1882 he completed his collegiate course of study at the University of the Pacific, San José. He subsequently took a thorough course in civil engineering at San Francisco. He was appointed United States Deputy Mineral Surveyor in 1887, and still holds that position.

G. W. EVANS, M. D., Modesto, is one of the prominent practitioners of Central California.

Dr. Evans was born in Calhoun county, Alabama, July 1, 1859, and in 1871 accompanied his parents to California and located in Stanislaus county. Here he received his education, and studied medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. S. M. McLean and Prof. R. A. McLean. He completed his medical lectures at the medical department of the State University, graduating in 1881. During the course of his studies he gained much valuable clinical experience in the city and county hospitals at San Francisco, having been appointed to fill a vacancy in the sur-

gical ward. After his graduation, Dr. Evans returned to Modesto and entered into a partnership with Dr. S. M. McLean. They have an extensive and growing practice, not only in the immediate vicinity but throughout the surrounding counties. As a surgeon Dr. Evans ranks among the best in the State. He is surgeon for the Southern Pacific railroad at Modesto, and has been County Physician of Stanislaus county for a number of years, having charge of the county hospital at Modesto.

Dr. Evans has performed many of the most difficult and dangerous surgical operations, such as excision of the hip joint and amputation of the limbs, during the hottest summer weather, with perfect success, thus practically demonstrating the fact that the hot weather of the San Joaquin valley is no barrier to perfect surgical success.

His political views are in harmony with Democratic principles, and he is always to be found allied with the best elements of his party. He has served as a member of the Democratic County Central Committee.

Socially he affiliates with Modesto Lodge, No. 81, Knight of Pythias.

HON. GEORGE W. NICOL, Superior Judge of Tuolumne county, California, is a native of the county over which he now presides. He was born at Columbia, January 25, 1862, and is probably the youngest superior judge in the State of California. His parents are both natives of the Old World, born in Scotland.

Judge Nicol is a Democrat, politically, and was elected to his present office by his party in 1890.

For his wife he married Mrs. Julia C. Clark, *nee* Mock, of Sonora, and has one child.

HENRY WHITWORTH, a venerable pioneer, is an Englishman by birth, and was born April 29, 1824. His parents were Henry and Jane (Bradley) Whitworth. In 1848, when twenty-four years of age, he came to the United States and the same year went to Chicago. Later he sent for his parents. In 1849 he came to California across the plains, and is one of the few who dared the hardships of those pioneer days. From San José, he walked every step of the way to Mariposa and Tuolumne county, where he mined and kept store, and teamed to the mines until 1863, being very successful until he went to Contra Costa county and began ranching. He followed this for six years, when he came to Merced county and pre-empted a quarter section of land and also a homestead of 160 acres. He now owns about 1,000 acres of fine agricultural land, well improved, which is devoted to stock-raising and agriculture.

Mr. Whitworth brought to this country the true gift of an Englishman, and has succeeded in making a home for those dependent on him. He has the confidence and respect of a large circle of friends.

He was married in San Francisco in 1855, to Miss Anna Hall, also a native of England.

They have three children: George H., a successful farmer; John W., also a farmer of Merced county; and Jane, wife of R. J. Butts, of Alameda county. Mrs. Whitworth died March 12, 1877, and Mr. Whitworth has never re-married.

FRANK HOWELL, proprietor of the Merced City Roller Mills, is a native son of the Golden West, born in Merced county in 1857. His father, B. F. Howell, crossed the plains in 1853, assisted in the organization of the county in 1856, and was one of the first Supervisors. He died in August, 1891, aged seventy-one years. Frank is the fourth of a family of five children. After he had completed the common-school course he was made cashier of the Merced Bank, which position he held from March 1, 1882, until December, 1891. At this time he purchased the mills at Snelling, which were established in 1853, having the oldest water-right in the county; they were built by H. J. Ostrander, and are located on Merced river, one and a quarter miles below Snelling. In July, 1888, a complete set of rollers was put in which gives the mill a capacity of fifty-five barrels a day; plans are now completed for lighting the mill by electricity.

Mr. Howell purchased the property in February, 1891, with C. Landram as a partner, whose interest he bought the following July; he now owns the mill property with eleven acres of fine river-bottom land. The warehouse has a capacity of 2,500 tons, and he pays within five cents per bushel for grain of the ruling price at Merced, seventeen miles distant.

His residence, located on a high bluff overlooking the valley, is known as Bella Vista; it was formerly owned by Mr. Curtis.

As an insurance agent, Mr. Howell represents the Manchester, the Caledonia and the American companies. He is a man of rare business ability, and as a citizen is held in the highest estimation.

He was married April 14, 1880, to Miss Belle Little, a native of Missouri, and to them have been born four children: Edward, Margaret, Bert and Belle. Mr. Howell is a member of Yo Semite Lodge, No. 24, Knights of Pythias. He has filled the office of Deputy Treasurer under Mr. Price and Mr. Rector; he also served through the unexpired term of Mr. Price as County Treasurer.

GEORGE P. KELSEY, Ph. B., was born in Merced county, California, in 1855. His father, Erastus Kelsey, was the first Surveyor of Merced county; he was one of the pioneers of 1849, and engaged in mining until 1850, when he returned to the East. Two years later he came by way of Panama a second time, seeking his fortune in the Golden State; for several years he was extensively engaged in farming near Merced Falls, and in 1883 he removed to Oakland, where he now resides. His children are: Charles, George P., Horace G. and Arthur

L.; the last three are graduates of the State University. George P. Kelsey entered the University in 1874, and was graduated in 1879 with the degree of Ph. B. After completing the course of study laid down by this institution, he taught for six months. Having taken a thorough course in civil engineering, he entered the employ of the railroad company and served in the capacity of civil engineer until he was nominated county Surveyor of Merced county by the Republican party in 1882.

For several years past Mr. Kelsey has been engaged in the cultivation of 8,400 acres of land near Merced Falls; a portion of this is in grain, and the balance is fine pasture land.

In 1885 he was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Overstreet, who was born and reared in the city of San Francisco. They are the parents of three children: Dora, Gracie and Lillie.

THOMAS GARARD PEACHEY, the obliging Postmaster of Angel's, California, was born in the city of London, England, June 9, 1828. He is the son of Thomas and Mary A. (Garard) Peachey. His father was a painter, plumber and glazier by trade; was in the naval service, and was wounded at the siege of Copenhagen.

At the proper age the subject of this sketch was placed in a private school in London, where he remained four years. In March, 1843, he and his parents came to America, landing in New York city, May 1, 1843. There they remained until May 1, 1851, when they sailed for California, across the Isthmus of Panama, landing in San Francisco, June 26, 1851. In and near the city he and his father and brother, Henry James Peachey, worked at painting, etc., for a short time, when they set out for the mines in Calaveras county. Not meeting with good success, they returned to San Francisco and remained some three months. They then came back to Calaveras county and engaged in mining, this time with better success, and continued at it till 1867. It was then that Mr. Peachey began teaching in the public schools, and for twenty-three years he followed that profession with marked success. At the end of that time, in 1890, he was elected County Superintendent, and served acceptably for three years. He was, in 1890, appointed by the Legislature as Clerk of the Senate Committee on the State Prison and Prison Buildings, and in March, 1890, was appointed Postmaster at Angel's, which position he now holds.

Mr. Peachey has been married three times —first, in 1870, to Miss Lottie Fletcher, who died in 1872. June 3, 1880, he married Miss Jennie D. Price, by whom he had two children, still living, Lucetta Mabel and Bertha May. The mother of these children died April 2, 1885, and June 3, 1888, he wedded Mrs. Adella Armstrong. Mr. Peachey's mother died April 23, 1872, in her eighty-second year, and his father in 1874, aged eighty-three years.

Socially Mr. Peachey is an Odd Fellow; has passed all the chairs in that order and

has been the Deputy District Grand Patriarch of District No. 10 a number of times, and has also filled the position of District Deputy Grand Master for District No. 23 five or six terms. In politics he is an uncompromising Republican, and is now and has been for ten years, with the exception of two years, a member of the Board of Education of Calaveras county. He is also a Notary Public. Mr. Peachey is a man of rare strength of character and has remarkable powers of endurance. As a most worthy citizen he stands high in the estimation of all who know him.

E. C. CRAWFORD, the representative of the Southern Pacific railroad, at Oakdale, and one of the substantial citizens of that energetic town, is a native of New York State, born at Kasoag, Oswego county, December 31, 1854, his parents being Joseph Warren and Mary (Towsley) Crawford, the father a native of New Jersey and the mother of New York State.

In 1859 his father came to California and became engaged in the mountains of Calaveras county, near the Big Trees, in making shakes. He was joined by his family in 1863, they making the journey from their Eastern home via the Panama route. In 1865, the senior Mr. Crawford engaged in mining in Calaveras county, near Angel's Camp, Vallicita and at other places, and was so occupied until 1868. He then commenced farming in the same county, and continued that vocation in the vicinity of Knight's Ferry, whither he removed in 1870. In 1872 he moved to Milton, later to Tuttletown, near Sonora, and from there finally to San José, Santa Clara county, where he now resides.

E. C. Crawford, whose name heads this article, was reared from boyhood in California. He is self-educated, his schooling having been limited. He had the will, if not the opportunity, and managed to well make up for the lack of advantages. His first experience in railroad work was at Milton, in 1872, where he was first engaged in handling freight. Being anxious to learn, he soon picked up a good idea of telegraphy, and became sufficiently proficient to handle the keys in a creditable manner, so that within a year and a half of his railroad employment he was appointed agent at Peters. In 1875 he was assigned to the terminal office as acting agent under A. Campbell, agent, and on December 18, 1877, he was promoted to the general charge of the office. On June 1, 1885, he resigned his position as agent and accepted a position as superintendent of Stanislaus Warehouse Company's warehouses, which he held for four years, when he accepted his old position as agent for the Southern Pacific Company. Oakdale is by far the most important point between the termini of the road, and Mr. Crawford ably administers the affairs of the office.

He has been twice married,—first, October 14, 1874, to Miss Mary A. Board, a native of California, who died August 7, 1875. His present wife, to whom he was united in marriage February 18, 1877, was formerly Miss Maggie Chalmer, a native of Sonora,

Tuolumne county, California, and a daughter of H. G. Chalmer, one of the pioneers of the State. They are the parents of two children, George and Frank.

Mr. Crawford has passed the chairs of Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F., also in Ridgely Encampment, No. 68, of which he was a charter member; was a charter member of Canton Manchester, No. 8, Patriarchs Militant; has passed the chairs of Ruth (Rebekah degree) Lodge, Oakdale; and was one of the original members of Oak Grove Lodge, No. 198, A. O. U. W., in which he has passed the chairs, and is at present Receiver of the lodge. He is an earnest advocate of temperance principles, and believes that the success of the cause lies through the avenues of legislation. He has, therefore, allied himself with the Prohibition party. Mr. Crawford is a prominent and respected citizen of Oakdale, and is thoroughly identified with the town in all matters pertaining to its welfare.

DR. JOSHUA GRIFFITH was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, June 28, 1800, and is one of a family of seven children of Joshua and Jemima (Hazelton) Griffith, natives of Maryland and New Jersey, respectively. In 1810, the family removed to Ohio, where the father died three years later. At the age of fifteen years Dr. Griffith went to Cadiz, Ohio, where he had an elder brother who stood as guardian to him; there he learned the gunsmith's trade, and later followed his vocation at New Salem, Ohio. In 1820, he went to West Virginia and remained a year, following his trade and studying medicine. In 1822, he went to Fort Hankey, at the mouth of the Yellowstone, with General Askley, and returned to St. Louis, by way of Council Bluffs. In March, 1824, he set out for Santa Fé, taking the first train of wagons that ever went to that place. Thence he went down the Rio Grande river to El Paso, where he built a blacksmith shop, and remained until 1830, when he went on a bear-trapping expedition, which proved unfortunate. Making an extensive detour in order to evade the Indians, fifty or more of the savages came up with them at the mouth of San Pedros river, and fought them for twenty-four hours; but they, the white party, succeeded in getting away under cover of the night. Afterward he went to Mexico and located there permanently for three years, during which time he did watch repairing. He next engaged in mining for silver in the State of Sonora, Mexico. On March 1, 1848, he started for California. Arriving in Los Angeles county, he stopped with William Workman at El Monte, where he remained until the discovery of gold; he then came to Amador county and mined there, but soon returned to Mexico to procure help; he also brought back cattle and thirty men. In 1850, he mined at the Fremont diggings, in Mariposa county, after which he removed to Merced river, and began ranching, and also packing merchandise, and he did a good business. Once, however, he had sixty mules ready to go for goods, when they were all stolen one night by the Indians. The Doctor

then bought fifteen more of O'Brien and fifteen of Firebaugh, and these, too, were stolen! The Doctor never recovered any of these, or received any payment for them from the Government. His whole loss was estimated at $20,000.

Then he went to Santa Cruz to obtain seed wheat, paying $9 a bushel; and he also paid for potatoes, onions and other articles in the same proportion. He sent to San Francisco for a plow, which cost him $60, and he paid the same amount for a set of harness. Thus he plowed the first furrow and sowed the first wheat in the great San Joaquin valley, south of Stockton.

Now, as he considered $40 a barrel too high a price for flour, he built a mill, the first water flour mill in the valley. He threshed his wheat and made his own flour.

About the year 1854, he established an infirmary, which he controlled for ten years, having patients from the mines, from San Francisco, Stockton, Los Angeles and elsewhere, who generally went away satisfied with their treatment,—often were better satisfied than he was when he received no pay!

In the city of St. Louis, in 1824, he began the practice of medicine, and followed the profession almost continuously for fifty years. He owns a large ranch in Merced county and a residence in the city of Merced.

The Doctor was married July 25, 1844, to Miss Francisca Arias, a native of Mexico, and to them have been born four children: Frank, Mercedus, William and Fred. Very few men now living have passed through the innumerable experiences that have attended Dr. Griffith's life. He has had an iron constitution and a will of the same metal. At the advanced age of ninety-two years he is well preserved both in body and mind, and is a fine type of the honored pioneer.

HIRAM A. BURGESS, one of the farmers of Stanislaus county, California, is a native of Maine, born at Fairfield, Somerset county, May 13, 1824. His parents, Ellis and Malinda (Lawrence) Burgess, were both natives of Maine, and the father was a Colonel of State militia during the early history of that State, the family having settled there when Maine was a portion of Massachusetts. He died when Hiram A. was nine years of age. The latter is the fourth-born in a family of seven children, and was reared and educated in his native State. He served an apprenticeship of five years at the carpenter's trade, in the town of Fairfield, and followed that occupation until 1853, when he came by water to California, taking passage on the steamers George Law and Sierra Nevada respectively. On his arrival at San Francisco he began work at his trade, at $9 per day; but, like many others, concluded to go to the mines, which he did, stopping a few weeks at Stockton, thence to San Andreas, and later to Columbia, where he followed mining, in all, some ten years. Leaving the mines, he came to Stanislaus county, in 1869 and took up land, by preemption and homestead, 320 acres, eight miles southeast of Oakdale, and has since

been engaged in farming. He has since sold the land, and is now living on rented land. He cultivates 160 acres at the home place and also a large acreage near hy, the ontire property being devoted to tho production of grain.

Mr. Burgess was united in marriage at Springfield, Tuolumne county, California, in Novomber, 1866, with Miss Mary A. Green, a native of San Francisco, born in 1850, and by her has two sons, Hiram A., Jr., and Benjamin Fairfield.

Although not active in political matters, Mr. Burgess is a stanch Repuhlicau. He is allied with Columbia Lodge, No. 21, I. O. O. F., and has passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodge. During his residence in Tuolumne county, ho was for six years a member of the County Board of Supervisors; has also served as School Trustee of the Booth School District, in Stanislaus county for many years.

THOMAS W. WELLS, artist, portrait and landscape photographer, Sonora, California.—This gentleman stands at the head of his profession, is deservedly popular, and merits appropriate mention in this work. He has heen connected with some of the best-known studios on the coast, and as an expert operator perhaps ranks second to nono in the State. Ho makes a specialty of cularging and finishing pictures iu India ink, crayon, oil and water colors. His studio is equipped with all the modern contrivances and is complete in all its appointments, while his parlors and waiting rooms are models of order, neatness and comfort and contain many large landscape views of the beautiful scenery and points of interest in Tuolumne and the surrounding counties, all of which are his own productions. Tho business was established many years ago and was at one time carried on by Mr. Rulofson, of tho firm of Bradloy & Rulofson, San Francisco. Mr. Wells has conducted tho establishment for many years, with a constantly increasing trade.

Thomas W. Wells is a native of Tuolumne county, born in Sonora, Augnst 13, 1857. His father, Joseph Wells, now deceased, was among the early settlers of the county. His mother, Mary A. Wells, *nee* Henderson, is still living and is a resident of Stanislaus county. He is the eldest in a family of four children. In 1876 he entered upon an apprenticeship in Sonora with Daniel Sewell. A year later he went to San Francisco and completed the bnsiness in the studio of J. H. Peters & Co., and in that of Bradley & Rulofsou. In 1879 he returned to Sonora, and has since followed his profession here.

Mr. Wells was married in Tuolumne county, June 27, 1881, to Miss Maggie J. Harington, a native of the same county. They have two children, viz.: Myrtle E. and Thomas A.

Politically, Mr. Wells is a stanch Republicau, though not an active politician. Socially, ho is identified with several secret societies. Prominent among them may bo mentioned the F. & A. M., Tuolumne Lodge, No. 8; Sonora Lodge, No. 197, A. O. U. W., in

which he has passed all the chairs; Heteh Hetchy Council, No. 32, of Chosen Friends, of which be is Past Conncilor; Past Grand Conncilor of the order of Chosen Friends of the California jurisdiction, which also includes the States of Nevada and Washington.

SEBASTIAN T. LECLERT.—This gentleman, one of the substantial citizens of the eastern part of Stanislaus eonnty, is a native of England, born at Portsmouth, August 31, 1845. His father, Theodore François Leclert, was born in the commune de Grerville, canton de Beaumont, arondissement de Cherbonrg, department de la Maneho, Franee. From France, where he was married to Miss Mary Sims, he went to England. In 1852 he removed with his family to the United States, loeating in Orleans county, New York, abont six miles from Albion. .In 1857 the father went to California to try his fortune in the mines. Among the plaees where he followed this pnrsuit were Angel's Camp, Montezuma and Knight's Ferry. In 1860 the family joined him at the last named plaee, making the journey by way of Panama, and landing at San Francisco from the steamer Golden Age, July 28, 1860, and thenee proceeding to Knight's Ferry. The father died in this county September 12, 1885. The mother is a resident of Oakdale.

Sebastian T. Leelert, the subjeet of this sketeh, came to California with his mother in 1860. He made his own way in the world from an early age, and in 1863 went to Copperopolis to work in the eopper mines. He was engaged in connection with the mines there for nearly five years, and then returned to Stanislaus county and went to work at farming by the day, which he followed until 1872. He had pre-empted 160 acres of land in the fall of 1868, however, and the next year he homesteaded another quarter seetion, and in 1872 went to live and work on his own land. He devoted all his land to wheat-growing, and as the soil is of good quality his efforts are usually successful.

He is a man of intelligenee, enterprise and energy, and deservedly ranks among the leading eitizens of this portion of the county. He is a member of Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F.; of Ridgely Encampment, No. 68, Oakdale; and of Canton Manchester, No. 8 Patriarchs Militant, Oakdale, of which he is Ensign. He also belongs to Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F. & A. M.

Mr. Leclert was married October 1, 1872, to Miss Isabella Robertson, and they are the parents of three children, viz.: Theodore S., Mary I. and Robert J. Mrs. Leclert was born in Mariposa county, California, her parents being John and Jane (Howden) Robertson, the father born in the highlands of Scotland and the mother in the lowlands at Edinboro. Both lost their parents when mere children. In Australia they were united in marriage, and at Sydney John Robertson followed the vocation of shipbuilder. In 1849 he came to California, and after a stay in San Franeiseo went to the mountains to mine. He mined at Montezuma, Chinese

Camp, Mariposa and Jamestown, dying at the last named place, where he is buried. His widow died later, at Stockton.

THOMAS LEONARD.—This gentleman is the proprietor of the Sonora Soda Works, Sonora, California, which works were established in 1852 and have been carried on by the present proprietor for more than a quarter of a century. A number of non-intoxicating drinks are manufactured here, among which are soda-water, sarsaparilla, ginger ale, creamed soda, etc. These works have a capacity for making 400 dozen per day, though the demand is not equal to that amount. The trade being purely local, a delivery wagon runs regularly to all parts of the county.

Mr. Leonard is a native of Ireland, and dates his birth in county Sligo, June 18, sixty years ago. His parents, Owen and Mary (Garity) Leonard, were both natives of that county, and are now deceased. In their family of ten children he was the fourth-born. He emigrated to America and located at New Orleans in 1852. In 1854 he came to California, making the journey via the Nicaragua route. His early life was spent in farming pursuits. A few months after landing in San Francisco he came to Sonora, and was engaged in mining until 1862. Not being successful, however, he began to look about for other and more profitable business. About 1865 he took charge of the soda works, and has since conducted a successful business. Mr. Leonard was elected county Supervisor in 1871, and held that position seventeen years, finally having to give it up to take the post office, to which he was appointed under President Cleveland's administration. He also served as a member of the Board of City Trustees one term.

In 1866 Mr. Leonard was married, in Sonora, to Miss Ellen Rowe, a native of Ireland. They have three daughters living, viz.: Mary F., Nellie D. and Kathlene M. Owen T., their only son, is deceased.

Politically Mr. Leonard is a Democrat; religiously a Catholic. He affiliates with the I. O. O. F., and has passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodge. He also holds a membership in the order of Chosen Friends and the A. L. of H. In addition to his business property he owns a handsome residence near his business stand, and has some fifteen acres adjacent. Mr. Leonard is a man progressive and enterprising, and one of whom any community should be proud.

BENJAMIN GREEN, an enterprising citizen of the eastern part of Stanislaus county, is a native Californian, born at Springfield, Tuolumne county, January 14, 1856, his parents being Abendigo and Rebecca (Woolever) Green. His father was born in Maryland, but reared from childhood in Ohio. He came to California via Panama in the early mining days, and followed that vocation in the placer diggings of the Angel's district in Calaveras county for a time, and later at Springfield, in Tuolumne county. He removed with his family to Stanislaus

county about 1869, locating seven miles southeast of Oakdale. He died on the 22d of March, 1879. His widow survives him, and makes her home with our subject.

Benjamin Green was reared in Tuolumne county to the age of thirteen years, and after that in Stanislaus county, on the ranch which is now his home, and which he has conducted since his father's death. He has 480 acres of good land, and farms it all except about forty acres which is used as pasture for his stock. His farming land is devoted to wheat and barley, principally the former.

He was married in this county, in October, 1879, to Miss Alice Eliza Lovell, a native of Illinois. Their children are as follows: Gracie, Ruby, Clarence, Mary, Martha, Alice and Lillie. Politically Mr. Green is a Republican. He is a genial, courteous gentleman, and enjoys the respect and friendship of all who know him.

JOSEPH B. L. BITTICK, one of the oldest settlers now living in Stanislaus county, and a pioneer of California, was born in Shelby county, Texas, June 29, 1828. His parents were Jonathan and Jane (Butler) Bittick, the father born in Tennessee, of Welsh ancestry, and the mother a native of Georgia. They were married in Arkansas, and went to Texas under the Austin treaty. The maternal grandfather of our subject, George Butler by name, was one of the leading men of that section of the country, having been appointed as one of the Government Commissioners to pass upon the head rights under the treaty with Mexico, and having also been a member of the Texas Senate.

Joseph B. L. Bittick was reared in Texas, and from there came to California in 1849, via Mexico, crossing the line at El Paso del Norte, and the Colorado river at the junction of the Gila on August 4, at which time he saw the water running in the New river. He proceeded on up to Indian bar, on the Tuolumne river, in the county of the same name, and first struck his pick in the ground in the search for gold on September 21, 1849. After mining there about three months, he went to Mariposa, and his mining experience thereafter was a varied one, he having taken out gold, among other places, at Coulterville, Big Oak Flat, Chineso Camp, Sonora, Summersville, etc. Like most of the miners of that early day, he had his sobriquet and will yet be remembered by many of the pioneers as "Texas Joe." In the spring of 1850 he came down toward the valley, and settled three miles below La Grange, where he put in a water wheel, and conducted a vegetable garden. In the fall of that year he sowed sixty acres of barley, and harvested a good crop in 1851, for which he received seven cents per pound on the ranch. In 1853 he sold his property there, and settled at another location two miles below, where he remained until 1857. Then he went to Tuolumne county again, taking up his abode at Summerville, and there, with others, located a mine, which is now known as the Lady Washington. He sold out in 1861,

then went to Tulare county, where he was engaged in buying cattle, and lived there until 1864. That was one of the dryest seasons in the known history of California, and he lost about all his stock, only saving one milch cow and his saddle horse. He then went again to Summersville, and from there in 1866 or 1867 to Merced county. In 1870 he bought property here, and ran what is known as the Cox Ferry, between Snelling and Merced City, until 1878. He next went to Bodie, and teamed there two seasons, after which he went to Bishop Creek, Inyo county, where he remained until 1883. That year he came again to Stanislaus county. He has been a resident of the county ever since, and of his present location since 1889.

Mr. Bittick was first married, in April, 1856, to Miss Eliza Summers, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of Samuel Summers, who died in 1852 while on the road to California. Three children were born to them, viz.: Henry M., Albert C. and George. He was married to his present wife on November 5, 1889. Her maiden name was Miss Susan Turpin, and she was born in Benton county, Missouri, daughter of Aaron and Jane (Smith) Turpin, her father being a native of Kentucky and her mother of Virginia. He father died in Missouri, and the mother came with her family to California in 1864, and died in this county in January, 1865. Mrs. Bittick was first married at La Grange, August 3, 1866, to William McKinney, who came to California in 1849. He mined in Tuolumne county, and afterward came to Stanislaus county, where he died December 29, 1884, leaving four children: Ansel L., Benjamin W., Ora Belle and William M.

Mr. Bittick belongs to the Modesto Society of California Pioneers. Politically, he is a Democrat, and formerly took an active interest in party matters. He is a Mexican veteran and a pensioner of the war with the southern republic. He enlisted in Shelby county, Texas, in Captain M. T. Johnson's company, Hayes's regiment; rendezvoused at Austin, and was mustered into the United States service there, with Colonel Bell, afterward Governor of Texas, as Lieutenant Colonel. Our subject's company was detailed to watch the Indians on the frontier of Texas, he being stationed most of the time near Waco; was mustered out in the early fall of 1848.

The home place, conducted by Mr. Bittick, comprises 320 acres, which is devoted principally to farming. It is well improved, among the conveniences being a fine family orchard. Mr. Bittick has an unusually good memory and recalls with ease the days of early gold-hunting, having a fund of reminiscences of those times and being an extremely interesting converser.

DAVID SHERBURN, deceased, one of the early settlers of California, was born in New Hampshire in March, 1820, and was of English ancestry. His parents died when he was a child, and when eleven years of age he went with an uncle to

Boston, where he was reared to manhood. He became a merchant in the New England metropolis, and was married there October 23, 1836, to Miss Marion A. Tisdale.

In 1850 Mr. Sherburn came to California, making the journey by way of Panama. He located at Springfield, Tuolumne county, and engaged in the general merchandise business, continuing in trade there until the time of his death, which occurred January 7, 1864. In 1860 he went back to the East and returned with his wife, the journey being made by the Panama route and on the steamers Uncle Sam and Northern Light on the Atlantic and Pacific sides respectively. They landed at San Francisco December 9, and at Springfield four days later. Mrs. Sherburn removed to Stanislaus county in 1876, and took up 160 acres of land where she now resides. She is a native of Boston, Massachusetts, and daughter of Daniel and Rebecca (Totman) Tisdale, the father a native of Massachusetts and a member of an old family of that State, while the mother was born in Maine. Mrs. Sherburn is a lady of refinement and intelligence, and is withal a good business woman, her management of her ranch property being worthy of commendation.

LEONARD O. BREWSTER, deceased, a Californian pioneer of 1852, was born in the State of Vermont in 1831. His parents, Leonard L. and Annie (Miller) Brewster, natives of Vermont and New Hampshire respectively. They were among the early settlers of their respective States and were pioneers of Ohio, having removed to the latter State in 1833. The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in the Buckeye State and came to California in 1852, and engaged in farming in Stanislaus county, and was also for several years connected with the butchering business at Chinese Camp, Tuolumne county, having purchased his stock in the valley and driving them into the mountains, where large numbers were sold, besides furnishing his own market. He continued in this business for a number of years, and finally located in 1863, on the property now farmed by his wife, which is located some seven miles northwest of Modesto. This property consists of 477 acres, of which 140 acres are bottom land, the balance being devoted to grain-growing and stock-raising; another quarter section located near Oakdale is rented out. During his lifetime, Mr. Brewster was connected with many of the important enterprises of Stanislaus county, and at the time of his death was one of the directors of the First National Bank of Modesto. His death occurred December 31, 1891.

Mr. Brewster was twice married. January 15, 1863, he wedded Miss Catharine E. McGovern, a native of Louisiana, who bore him one child, Matilda M., now the wife of Ira P. Englehart, a resident of Modesto. His second marriage took place in Stanislaus county, on March 8, 1877, when he wedded Miss Joanna Feagins, a native of California, who was the youngest of nine children born

to Pleasant R. and Elizabeth (Jones) Feagins. Both of her parents were natives of North Carolina, being of Welsh and Irish descent. Mr. and Mrs. Feagins crossed the plains to California in 1852, and during their long and tedious journey their many troubles were greatly increased by the loss of two of their children, Mary C. and Missouri C., who were buried on the plains. The family located in San Joaquin county, subsequently removing to Stanislaus county. Mr. Feagins died November 1, 1867. His wife survived him until March 30, 1882, when she, too, passed away.

Mrs. Brewster resides on the estate and carries on general farming and stock-raising. The farm is principally devoted to grain-growing, and is under the personal supervision of Mrs. Brewster, she being quite equal to the management of the farm and the settlement of Mr. Brewster's estate. She is a lady of culture and refinement, as is attested by her large number of sincere and loving friends.

S. S. HILL, one of the honored and respected citizens of Oakdale, Stanislaus county, was born in Essex county, Vermont, March 28, 1813. He is the second in a family of seven children, and was reared on a farm and educated in his native State. His ancestors came from England to America in the seventeenth century and settled in Massachusetts. His father, Elijah Hill, at the age of twenty-one, located in Vermont. His mother, whose maiden name was Caroline Reed, was a native of New Hampshire, and a granddaughter of General James Reed, a patriot soldier in the Revolutionary army, who commanded the New Hampshire volunteers at the battle of Bunker Hill; also commanded at Fort George, and repulsed and routed the British who made a desperate night attack on the post. Soon after the last named occurrence he was attacked with inflammation in his eyes, and through malpractice became totally blind, consequently ended his usefulness in the service.

After completing his studies in the district school, the subject of our sketch took a short academic course, and was subsequently engaged in teaching school for some twelve years. In January, 1854, Mr. Hill took passage to California via the Nicaragua route, and arrived in San Francisco February 4, in the old steamer Brother Jonathan. Soon after his arrival at San Francisco he came to Knight's Ferry, Stanislaus county, and helped to build the first sawmill and flouring mill in the county. He was also engaged in placer mining for some eighteen months, and was fairly successful in that enterprise. In 1856 he engaged in the merchantile business at Knight's Ferry, and eight years later he opened a branch store at Telegraph City, Calaveras county, and met with fair success for a few years; but in 1870 was broken up in business through the recklessness of a gambling partner. In 1872 he removed to the flourishing town of Oakdale, where he has since resided. He now owns a considerable tract of valuable land adjacent to the town of Oakdale, thirty acres of which are planted to

vines and fruit trees. Since 1880 he has divided up and sold more than 100 acres in town lots, and has 100 lots more for sale.

Mr. Hill has been a Justice of the Peace in Oakdale seven years; is president of the Board of Directors of the Stanislaus Seminary, which is to be changed to a union high school under the State law; he was one of the projectors of and stockholders in the Oakdale Irrigation Company, and its first president; has been a Notary Public sixteen years. His penmanship even yet, at the age of seventy nine years, shows a steadier nerve than most men have at the age of fifty years, while his strokes and flourishes are as graceful as those of almost any writing master. Politically, he is allied with the Republican party, and takes an active interest in local matters. In short, ever since his advent in Stanislaus county, he has been prominently identified with its growth and development. In October, 1842, Mr. Hill married, in Vermont, Miss Lucy A. Bingham, a native of that State. Her ancestors, like her husband's, were among the early New England settlers. Of the Binghams, there were four brothers from England, who, from investigation, appear to be the ancestors of all or nearly all of the people of that name in the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have had four children, all now deceased.

HON. VITAL E. BANGS.—Among the more prominent educators of Stanislaus county is the gentleman with whose name we introduce this notice. Mr. Bangs is a native of old Mexico, and was born in the city of Victoria, August 26, 1834. His parents (now deceased) were Samuel and Susan (Payne) Bangs, the former a native of Boston, Massachusetts, the latter a Virginian by birth. The ancestors on both sides were of English descent, although early Colonial settlers of America. The father of our subject and his young wife removed to Mexico, hoping the genial climate would be beneficial to his impaired health. Here their children were born. Although natives of the Mexican Republic, the parents were American, and of the true Anglo-Saxon race. The father died when our subject was young, and in 1847 the mother removed with her family of children to the United States, where she was married to Henry Brees, who had been a wholesale merchant in Matamoras, Mexico. They permanently located at Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she resided until her death, which occurred March 20, 1884. The subject of this sketch was the fifth child in order of birth, the family consisting of seven children. His early life was devoted to farming, until in 1853 he crossed the plains to California, locating in El Dorado county, and engaged in teaching school and in mining for a time. He subsequently returned to the East and completed his collegiate course of studies at the Cedar Park Seminary and Kalamazoo College in 1856. He remained in Michigan until 1858, when he removed to Vernon county, Missouri, where he taught school some two years, thence returning to Michigan. His next location was in Douglass county, Kansas, where, in 1863, he was joined in

marriage to Miss Mary G. Moore, a native of Illinois. The following year he again crossed the plains to California and located in Stanislaus county and engaged in teaching, and since his return to the State he has taught in various localities,—Stanislaus, Placer, Tulare and Sacramento counties. In 1870 he permanently located near Modesto, and became connected with the schools of that city, and was at one time vice-principal. Since then, he has been prominently identified with many of the public enterprises of the State and county. On October 26, 1877, the State of California, through its department of Public Instruction, presented him with a teacher's life diploma; he has been a member of the Board of Education of Stanislaus county ten years, also a contributor to the *California Teacher* and other journals. He was appointed by Governor Markham a director of the Twenty-eighth Agricultural District of California, and was also the first Assessor of the Modesto Irrigation District, a position which he resigned to serve in the State Legislature, to which he was elected by his party and in which capacity he served the terms of 1888 and 1889. He is a prominent member of the Farmers' Alliance of Stanislaus county, and is at this time, 1892, its county president.

Mr. Bangs now resides three and one-half miles north of Modesto, where he owns three quarter sections of valuable farm property, nearly all of which is devoted to grain-growing. Some two and a half acres are devoted to vine culture of a general variety, although principally to the table grape; he has also some 300 orange trees, all in a healthy and flourishing condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Bangs are the parents of four children, three of whom are living. The names of those still surviving are, Henry T., Susan and Victoria L. The youngest son, Vital E., died April 20, 1890. Mr. Bangs affiliates politically with the Democratic party, and is a gentleman who is honored and respected by the entire community.

JAMES LONEY.—One of the respected and substantial citizens of the territory embraced within the limits of this volume is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is a native of Scotland, born in Dundee, December 25, 1818, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Mitchell) Loney. He was reared in his native country to the age of twelve years, when, yielding to the impulse of freedom, he threw aside the restrictions of home and started out to face the battle of life on his own account and on his merits. At this early age he apprenticed himself to sea life. When he arrived in New Orleans he engaged in stevedoring on the wharves of that city, his principal employment being what is known as cotton-screwing, by which the bales are wedged into position so that the shifting of the vessel when loaded will not dislodge the cargo. For eleven or twelve years he was so employed at New Orleans during a portion of the year, but always going to sea in summer or during yellow-fever epidemics. He came to California in 1852, coming by water to the

Isthmus of Panama, and thence on the Pacific to San Francisco, where he arrived in the spring of the year. He proceeded to Tuolumne county, where he was engaged in placer mining for some twelve years, principally at Pine Log, above Sonora. He gave $1,000 for the old Turner ranch, on Turner's Flat in Tuolumne county, which is yet the family home. However, business matters have compelled Mr. Loney to make his headquarters in Stanislaus county for several years past. Being appointed by the Court as administrator of the estate of the late William Clavey, including a ranch of 1,800 acres in the Oakdale district, he proceeded to the work of extricating it from embarrassing financial difficulties. Although this task was beset throughout with many obstacles calculated to dampen the ardor of a most resolute man, Mr. Loney has never faltered; but in pursuance of what he felt to be his duty in fulfillment of the trust reposed in him he has gone ahead and achieved results that are little short of remarkable.

He was married in New York city, in 1850, to Miss Catharine Johannes, a native of Sweden. They have seven children, namely: John, Jane, James, Joseph, Jerome, Julius and Jesse, the first born in New Orleans and all the rest in California. Mr. Loney is an Odd Fellow. As guardian of the minor children of Mr. Clavey, deceased, he has been educating the older child, William, at Stockton.

William C. Clavey was a son-in-law of Mr. Loney. He was born in England, in 1836, and came to America in 1856. After a year spent in Wisconsin, he came to California, locating in Stanislaus county. He was married in Tuolumne county, California, April 26, 1872, to Miss Jane A. Loney, and two children were born to them, viz.: William Robert, February 25, 1873; and Annie Eldwood, July 18, 1885. After their marriage Mr. Clavey acquired by pre-emption and homestead rights 320 acres in Stanislaus county, and this amount was increased by purchase to 1,200 acres. His death occurred June 25, 1885.

WILLIAM ADAMS, one of Stanislaus county's substantial farmers, was born near Springfield, Clark county, Ohio, April 8, 1826, his parents being John and Martha (Mourlan) Adams. His father was a native of Tennessee, and his mother a Virginian by birth.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in the State of his birth, and his occupation has always been that of a farmer. In 1864 he bid farewell to friends in the East, and began his long and weary trip across the plains to California, first locating in San Joaquin county, near the city of Stockton, where he engaged in farming until 1867, when he removed to Stanislaus county. His present home is situated some four and a half miles northeast of Modesto, where he has 570 acres in one tract, also 200 acres in another near the homestead, and 200 acres nine and a half miles east of Modesto, all of which is devoted to grain-growing, farming altogether nearly 1,000 acres in Stanislaus

county. He is also the owner of 400 acres in Merced county, the latter being cultivated to grain, although not farmed by him personally.

Mr. Adams has been twice married, his second marriage taking place in Stanislaus county some seven years ago, wedding Miss Sarah Gillam, of New York. He has six children living, of whom Lydia, the wife of La Fayette Steel, is a resident of Stanislaus county. Mary F., another daughter, is the wife of Gabriel Perkins, and Maria E. is now Mrs. James Gardner, while his three sons, John, William N. and Samuel C., are all profitably and honorably employed in congenial business.

ALFREDO BONILLAS, proprietor of the Elite Saloon and Billiard Hall on I street, Los Baños, is a native of California, and was born in Santa Cruz county, December 26, 1864. His parents were Estavan and Juana (Arellenes) Bonillas, the former a native of Mexico, the latter of California. They had nine children. Fred was educated at the public schools in Gilroy, and came to Merced county when but a boy, and located at old Los Baños, where he was brought up on a farm. In 1888 he opened up a saloon at Central Point, and a year and a half later came to Los Baños, where he made considerable investment in town property.

He was married in 1891, to Miss Rosa Mace, a native of San Benito county. They have one child, Annie Louisa. Fred is an all-around good fellow and is a favorite with all who know him. He is also a thorough sport, and owns one of the fastest-running horses in Merced county. He is also an energetic worker for the Republican party, and his influence with the Spanish-speaking population is manifold. Socially, he is a member of the Mountain Brow Lodge, No. 83, of I. O. O. F.

REASON F. BARTLETT, Treasurer of Merced county, is a native of Kentucky, born September 19, 1846, a son of Dr. John G. Bartlett. After completing the course of the common schools he entered an academy at Newcastle, Kentucky, from which he was graduated in 1867. Two years later he set out for the far West, and arriving at the mines of Nevada he stopped there, and during the time picked up a practical knowledge of the carpenter's trade. He also engaged in the lumber business at Eureka, Nevada, where he remained until 1881. In November of that year he went to Bodie, Mono county, California, and mined there for a year; he then came to Plainsburg, Merced county, where he took charge of the Grange warehouse. For eight years he gave his attention to this business, and was very successful.

Being well and favorably known throughout the community, when his name was presented as a candidate for Treasurer of Merced county, in November, 1890, he was elected by a majority of 474 over his opponent, being the choice of the Democratic

party. He took charge of the office January 5, 1891, and has made a very fine record as an official.

Mr. Bartlett was married in 1872, to Miss Mattie L. Spinks, a native of Texas. To them have been born two sons, Clyde and Roy. Our subject owns some valuable town property in the young and thriving town of Selma, Fresno county. He is one of Merced county's most active and progressive citizens and merits the confidence reposed in him. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., Merced Lodge, No. 74, of which he is secretary, and is president of the Merced Building and Loan Association, which was organized in June, 1891.

JOHN QUINCY DRUMMOND was born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1837, and is a son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Lutzenhizer) Drummond. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania, and had a family of eleven children. They were among the earliest settlers of Illinois, having moved to the Prairie State in 1836. They settled in Jo Daviess (now Ogle) county, and there made a farm, sending their children to a log schoolhouse in that vicinity. The father died at the advanced age of eighty-six.

The first work our subject did for himself was farming, after which he went into the grain and general merchandise business at Ashton, Lee county, Illinois, and his was the first warehouse there, and it was he who shipped the first cargo from that place. In 1850 he drove an ox team to California and spent two years in the mines, returning to Illinois in 1852. Here he engaged in the mercantile business, continuing in this for seven years, when in 1859 he again came overland to California. This time he brought a herd of cattle with him. In the fall of 1859 he contracted to take the first quartz mill from Sacramento to Virginia City, Nevada. The distance was 180 miles on the old emigrant road, and he was to receive ten cents a pound freight, and as the mill weighed 10,000 pounds, he would clear a neat sum. On account of snow he got only to Sportsman's Hall that winter, and was obliged to leave it until spring, when he brought it through all right and cleared $700 on the job. After freighting over the mountains from Sacramento to Virginia City and other towns in Nevada for a couple of years, he went to railroading, helping to construct the road from Niles to Stockton, as foreman. He also superintended the construction of the road from San José to Gilroy, and from San Quentin Point to San Rafael. He was also foreman on the road from Vallejo to Sacramento, and was foreman in San Francisco in filling in the ground for the Pacific Mail Company's docks in the year 1867. In 1871 he had charge of a scraper gang on the San Joaquin and King's River canal, and after six weeks was made superintendent of construction. He began work as superintendent June 1, 1871, and on December 1 of the same year had completed forty miles of the canal. In 1877 he was appointed general superintendent, and in 1878 had the canal completed to Orestimba creek. Since its completion he

has been superintendent and collector up to 1890. In 1886 he purchased 480 acres under the canal, and has at present one of the best stock farms in Merced county. Mr. Drummond has been very successful, and is well and favorably known all over California. He brought with him to the coast that spirit of enterprise which is inherent in the inhabitants of the Buckeye State.

He was married in 1852, in Illinois, to Eliza J. Rosecrans, a native of Ohio and a cousin to the celebrated General. They have two children: Arthur W., of Los Baños, and Lucy J., wife of J. E. Hallingsworth. Mrs. Drummond died in 1866, and Mr. Drummond has never re-married, but makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. Hallingsworth, who resides two miles south of Ingomar, in a beautiful and rich valley, surrounded by all that is necessary for comfort and happiness.

HON. JOHN MILTON MONTGOMERY, deceased, was born in the State of Kentucky in 1816. He was a carpenter by trade, and in 1847 he emigrated to California, locating at Monterey; later he went to the mines where he did a freighting business, and afterward he located on Merced river, where he opened a farm, which he placed under cultivation, and dealt extensively in live-stock. He was one of the most enterprising men of Merced county, and at one time was the wealthiest. In 1885 he was elected to the State Senate, and filled this office with marked ability for two terms. R. R. Parkinson, in his "Pen Portraits of Senators," says of Mr. Montgomery: "He reminds one of the boys that led emigrants across the plains, a man of few words, but one whose countenance reminds one of the iron will within the man. His dress of modest gray is never changed, and he courts no admiration. He is neither handsome nor distinguished-looking, a plain, blunt farmer, who talks just what he means."

He was chairman of the committee on Public Works, also on Agriculture, and was special commissioner on Public Expenditures.

In 1853 he was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Armstrong, and to them were born the following children: Mary, wife of J. J. Buckley; Jennie, wife of H. K. Huls; Ella, wife of E. L. Smith; John A., Robert H. and William S., twins; Katie, aged sixteen, and Lizzie, aged seven, were accidentally drowned in Merced river. Mr. Montgomery departed this life May 4, 1891; his wife died November 12, 1883.

John A. Montgomery, son of the above, and the present Supervisor from the First District, was born in Merced county in 1860, and was reared to the occupation of a farmer. In 1882 he purchased a farm and began giving his attention to the culture of fruits. He owns 130 acres, one-half mile southwest of Snelling, where he has a handsome residence; his fertile pasture lands are covered with large numbers of horses and cattle, and he is one of the most prosperous citizens of the community.

He was married December 4, 1890, to Miss Addie Neighbor, a native of Tuolumne

county and a daughter of Jacob and Mary (Ferrier) Neighbor, pioneers of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Moutgomery are well-known as the most genial, companionable persons, and their generous hospitality is accorded alike to stranger and nearest friend.

ADOLPHE CONSTANT ZOTTE was born in Paris, France, Jannary 7, 1854, being the only child of Nicholas Zotte and Elizabeth, *nee* Jantzen, and in his veins mingle Danish, German and French blood. In 1856 he came with his parents to San Francisco, whero they conducted a boot and shoe store, his father heing now a retired capitalist of that city. Our subject was educated at the public schools and St. Ignatius College, and subsequently clerked and kept books for Manson & Co. In 1872 he came to Merced county, where he had charge of the French store at Ontigalito postoffice, which was the second postoffice ever established on the west side of Merced county. He was then only eighteen years of age, but his knowledge of French and Spanish made his services indispensable. A yoar later ongaged with Miller & Lux. Later on, he engaged in the sheep business, in which he continued for nine years, when he opened a saloon at Central Point, Merced county. It was abont this time that he took up 320 acres of land and commenced farming. At this he was very successful. In 1890 he bought property on J street, in Los Baños, on which ho built a neat and comfortable residence, and also acquired the Palace saloon on I street.

He was married in 1888 to Miss Catharine Bonillas, a native of Santa Cruz, California, and of Spanish descent. Their two children are named Jano Beatrice and Thomas Nicholas.

Socially, he is a member of Mountain Brow Lodge, No. 82, I. O. O. F., also of Merced Grove, No. 36, Ancient Order of Druids, and of the A. O. U. W., at Merced; and he is an energetic and influential worker for the Republican party. In 1890 he was appointed Deputy County Recorder. He is well and favorably known all over the San Joaquin valley and in San Francisco. He speaks six different languages, and his influence with the representatives of the different nationalities of the west side is truly remarkable. He is recognized by the people as being far above the average man in intellect. He possesses a wonderful memory, and is thoroughly well informed on ancient and modern history, as well as current literature.

G. H. WAGNER was born in Galena, Illinois, April 23, 1847. His father, E. H. Wagner, a native of Germany, is a California pioneer of 1850, having crossed the plains to the new El Dorado of the West in that year. The subject of our sketch was the fourth-born in a family of nine children, and when a mere lad had the misfortune to lose his mother. He was reared and educated in San Joaquin county. In 1867, he learned the blacksmith trade, and has since followed that calling. He is now conducting a blacksmith and general repair shop at Modesto,

and is also extensivoly engaged in the manufacture of the Stockton improved plow. In May, 1878, he established this factory, and in it gives employment to five men the year round. He has done a good business from the first. The demand for his plows is constantly increasing, not only in Stanislaus but throughout many of the surrounding counties, and the annual salo is enormous. Those who have used this plow speak highly of its superior qualities over the original patent.

Mr. Wagner is a man of family. He was first married in Stanislaus county, April 23, 1876, to Miss Ella Rusb, of Kentucky. She died August 20, 1879, leaving two children: Lena B. and Mattie B. July 29, 1885, he was married, in Yolo county, to Miss R. C. Adams, a native of Illinois. By her be has ono child, L. Vivian.

Mr. Wagner is a stanch Republican and an enthnsiastic worker in tho ranks of bis party.

HARRY THORNTON, the well-known hotel keeper, is a pioneer of '52, and was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, in 1839. When a boy of only thirteen he drove a team most of the way to California. Ho was for several years engaged in mining and prospecting, not only in California but in Montana, Washington and British Columbia. In 1870 ho camo to Merced county and followed teaming and ranching until 1876, when be opened a hotel at Los Baños. He continued to run this hotel and saloon until 1890, when it burned down, after which ho opened a saloon and wayside house at Volta. In the following year, February 15, 1891, he opened the new hotel at Los Baños. This is the finest hotel in the San Joaqnin valley, being a three-story brick building, lighted throughout with electricity. The rooms are largo, airy and light, and the hallways are wide and the stairs easy of ascent. The table is supplied with the best the market affords, and the bar with the finest wines and liquors. Guests are shown every attention by the servants, and it would be difficult to find a more genial and obliging host and hostess than are Mr. and Mrs. Thornton.

JOHN HENRY EDWARDS, Supervisor of District No. 4, Merced county, is a pioneer of '49. He is a native of Alabama, and was born in 1830. His parents were James G. and Lucy Edwards. They moved to Spring Hill, Arkansas, at an early day, the father dying there in 1856. In the spring of 1849 Mr. John Edwards left Fort Smith, Arkansas, for California, and arrived in Lassen county, on the Feather river, on the 20th of October of that year. For a couple of years he worked in the mines and was quite successful. He then went to farming in Solano county, where after three years he engaged in the stock business. This he followed until 1858. In 1868 he came to Merced county, locating where he now resides. He has a fine farm of 320 acres, of which half is under the canal. This land is very productive, and in evidence of this fact Mr. Edwards mentions that in 1891 he sold $300 worth of blackberries from half an acre

of land. Eighty acres of this land is devoted to fruit, and his raisin grapes are as fine as any in California. Besides this he farms some 700 acres not his own, and is one of the best agriculturists in the country.

He was married in 1864, to Miss Sarah M. Ish, a native of Missouri. Her father, Carrol Ish, was a pioneer of 1852. They have two children, a son and daughter, named respectively John Henry, Jr., and Grace.

FRANK A. MITCHLER, proprietor of Mitchler's Hotel, Main street, Murphy's, California, is a native of the Golden State. He was born at Murphy's, Calaveras county, November 8, 1863, a son of George Mitchler, deceased, who was a pioneer of 1851, a native of Germany, and well known to all old Californians as a restaurant and hotel-keeper. His wife was Elizabeth Kline before her marriage, and their children as follows: Peter, Lena, wife of George Scantlebury, and the subject of this sketch. The father was killed in 1867 by accident, while running a hotel in Mariposa for a man named Plate. He was educated in Boston, Massachusetts, where he learned the cabinet-maker's trade.

Frank A. began life for himself as a waiter at table in a hotel. He then became cook and worked at the Big Trees Hotel. In 1883 he, with his mother, brother and sister, bought the hotel at Murphy's of Harvey S. Blood, and to this establishment he has given his whole attention ever since. January 6, 1890, his mother died of a paralytic stroke. July 6, 1890, he bought out his brothers and sister's interests. He is a most popular landlord, and it may truthfully be said that he has one of the best appointed hotels in this part of the State.

Mr. Mitchler was a charter member of Chispa Parlor, No. 139, N. S. G. W., and was its first president. He now occupies that office, and through his efficient efforts this parlor is in a flourishing condition. They have recently built a fine hall, and have a membership of some forty.

Following is Mr. Mitchler's business card: "The Mitchler Hotel is situated in the town of Murphy's, fifteen miles distant from the Big Trees, and one mile from New Calaveras Cave, and six miles from the Natural Bridges. Visitors will stop at this hotel over night, where every comfort will be found."

ALBERT GALLATIN CARVER, deceased.—This gentleman, an old resident of Stanislaus county, was one of its most prominent and highly respected citizens. He was born at Fox Island, Maine, November 12, 1827, his parents being Meyar and Johanna (Snowden) Carver. He came of one of the oldest families of New England, the progenitors of the family in this country having come to this continent with the Pilgrim fathers. When he was quite young, the family moved to Rockland, Maine, where he was reared. While he was yet a boy he adopted a seafaring life, and ultimately became a mate of a vessel, his vocation taking him over the greater portion of the globe.

Becoming, like so many others, imbued with a desire to visit California, he, in 1851, came to this State, via New York and the Nicaragua route. Soon after landing at San Francisco, he proceeded to the mountain regions, where he engaged in mining, which vocation he pursued at Sonora, Springfield and Gold Springs. At the latter place, in conjunction with mining, he engaged in mercantile pursuits, which he followed until 1868, when he came to Stanislaus county, and bought 800 acres of land, to which he has since added until it now comprises 1,120 acres. This he has much improved, and in 1881 erected his present handsome residence, where he and his family reside.

Mr. Carver was married in San Francisco, December 7, 1853, to Miss Annie M. Callaghan, a native of the town of Cantnrk, Ireland, who came from Boston to California, via New York and Panama, in 1853. There are four children, viz.: Mary E., wife of Thomas J. Carmichael, of Stanislaus county; Cordelia Margaret, wife of I. L. Granger, of Fresno; Adaline Theresa and Evaline A.

Mr. Carver was a prominent member of the Odd Fellows' order, and had passed the chairs of Wildoy Lodge, No. 149, Modesto. Politically, he was a Democrat. He took an active interest in all matters calculated to advance the interests of the community, notably the problem of irrigation under the "Wright act." He was one of the first board of directors of the Modesto district organization, which is carrying out one of the greatest enterprises ever inaugurated in California, and at the time of his death was its president, having been elected to that executive position on account of his interest in the measure, as well as because of his recognized abilities. He was well known throughout the community, and universally regarded as a man of strict integrity and uprightness of character, and had a large coterie of warm personal friends. He died September 19, 1891.

GEORGE W. MAGUIRE, a native of the Golden State, was born in Santa Cruz county, in 1861, a son of Philip and Catharine (Coulin) Maguire. The parents were natives of Massachusetts, of Irish descent; they emigrated to California in 1853 via the Isthmus, and settled on 480 acres of land near Watsonville, Santa Cruz county. After twelve years of unremitting toil, when the land was brought to a high state of cultivation, Mr. Maguire was compelled to relinquish his claim on account of an old Spanish grant. He is still living in San Benito county. George Maguire is the fourth of a family of eight children. He acquired a good education in the public schools and at Heald's Business College. The first business in which he engaged was keeping books, but after a few months he came to Merced county and purchased 360 acres of land on Mariposa creek, two and a half miles west of Plainsburg; this tract is devoted to the cultivation of wheat; Mr. Maguire also superintends the Kahl ranch, managing it to the entire satisfaction of the owners.

He was married in February, 1888, to Miss Mary E. Reynolds, a daughter of Reuben Reynolds, a pioneer of 1849: one child was born of this union, Leslie C. The mother died in July, 1890, aged twenty-three years.

Mr. Maguire is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is a Granger. Politically he is an intelligent supporter of the Democratic party. Although a young man he has won an enviable position in business circles, and enjoys the highest respect of the entire community.

G. A. AND F. S. MACOMBER proprietors of the "Sonora" Champagne Cider and Apple Vinegar Works, Sonora, Tuolumne county, California.

The above named gentlemen are natives of the Empire State. In 1850 they crossed the plains to the new El Dorado of the West, and first located at Stockton, where they were in business for a time, and in the spring of 1851 came to Tuolumne county and engaged in gold mining first at Jamestown, then at Shaw's Flat, Springfield and Woods creek.

They were among the first to open up the Big Table mountain lode at the lower end of Shaw's Flats, where hundreds of thousands of dollars were extracted in the short time of ten or twelve months. They took out as high as 100 ounces of gold per day.

They were also the owners of the old Mexican claim which at times paid from $20 to $50 to the pound. Some pieces valued from $600 to $800.

In 1855 George A. Macomber went over to Amador county, where they had a valuable gravel claim and were the first to make use of the hydraulic system of mining in that county. The mine paid from $7,000 to $9,000 on the clean up of seventy days, which work was continued up to 1861, when they disposed of the entire property, and George returned to Tuolumne county, where Frederick Macomber in the meantime had established in their orchard, north end of Sonora, the pickle, apple cider and apple cider vinegar works, which they have continued to carry on ever since.

They utilize their fruit and purchase the apples from all the surrounding orchards. The works are driven by steam power. The capacity of the cider vats is about 1,000 barrels: this goes through the generator and rectifier, which produces the most superior apple vinegar, while only the choicest varieties of apples are selected from cider and champagne. These are run through the mills and the cider stored in their cellars in casks, where in the course of time it is canned and refined, put into barrels and cases and stored in their warehouse. Also their pickles are all put up in pure apple vinegar, rendering them superior to anything put up on the coast. Their famous brands of Champagne cider have a No. 1 reputation not only in this State but in the surrounding States and Territories. The have also manufactured the best wine, which has sold at wholesale in cases in the London market at $16 per dozen. Years of experience, especially in the manufacture of champagne cider, have given their brands preference

over all competition through the States. Their large warehouse and cellar are well stocked with bottled cider, ranging in age from two to five years old.

The three manufacturing businesses combined are wholesale. Shipments to the local trade are made principally in casks.

FERDINAND RECHENBACH was born in Germany, January 21, 1838, son of Christopher and Natalie (Hoerchner) Rechenbach. He is the oldest in a family of six children, and received a good education in his native country. In 1854 he came to the United States, locating in California. His first work here was clerk for Dr. Hoerchner. Then he engaged in quartz mining, on his own account, and made a failure, after which he returned to clerking, being employed by M. Kadisch of Sandy Gulch. He afterward mined again and again returned to clerking. Subsequently he took up a ranch of 160 acres at Rich Gulch, which is a fine property and which he is still operating, hiring men to cultivate it, and raising fruit of all kinds, grain, hay and stock. For one year he has been in the saloon business at Mokelumne Hill. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and a popular citizen. He is unmarried.

JAMES FARRIER, alias "Brigham," is a native of England, and was born September 29, 1849. His parents were James and Eliza (Merrycroft) Farrier, and of their nine children he was the third one born and is one of the three who are now living. He received a good education in the city of Manchester, England, and learned the trade of a weaver.

In January, 1867, he came to America, and in Boston followed his trade two years with the Boston Elastic Fabric Company. In 1869 he started for California. He carried the United States mail from Peach, Novada, to Mineral Park, Arizona, for a year. Also he worked nine months in Silver City, Idaho, before coming on to California. For the past twenty years he has been a peddler, and there are few families, from cold and foggy Humboldt on the north to the roses and oranges and sunshine of Los Angeles, that have not been honored by his presence, and have purchased of his wares and listened to his songs. "Jim" is full of mirth and good spirits; and when the "spirits" are not too jubilant he is a most genial companion.

HENRY BREM, a well and favorably known resident of Stanislaus county, is a native of Switzerland, and was born in the village of Schlieren, canton Zurich, on December 15, 1841. His parents were Jacob and Susannah (Boshardt) Brem, the father a railroad ticket agent there, where he also had a small farm.

Our subject was reared at his native place, and attended school between the ages of six and fourteen years, his youth having been spent in work upon the home place. In 1869 he came to America to begin life for himself,.

having sailed from Havre on the steamer Silesia on the 2d of October, and landed in New York after a trip of nine days and ten hours, which was rapid time for that day. From New York he proceeded to Seneca county, Ohio, where he worked during that winter, and in 1870 came on out to California, arriving at Stockton on the 6th of May. He went to work for Jacob K. Meyer, whose place was only a few miles from Stockton, and remained in his employ for seven years. He then bought 196 acres of land four miles from Oakdale, on the opposite bank of the Stanislaus river, and moved upon it. Here, assisted by his faithful wife, he has made many improvements, and they now have a place of which they may well feel proud. On this place grain is chiefly raised, although horses and cattle form an item, as do also various breeds of chickens, principally Leghorns and Plymouth Rocks. They have a small orchard and a number of bearing grapevines.

Mr. Brem was married on September 24, 1874, to Miss Barbara E. Hanenstein, a native of Indiana, born in Bango township, Elkhart county. Her parents were Rudolph and Ann (Meyer) Hanenstein, both of whom were natives of Switzerland, but who were both reared in America, the father having been only seven and the mother nine years of age when they accompanied their parents in their emigration to America. Her mother is yet living in Indiana, but her father is dead. Mrs. Brem came to California in 1874, coming to San Joaquin county, where her uncle, Mr. Jacob K. Meyer, one of the old settlers of that county, lived, who afterward moved to Santa Cruz county, where he has since died. Mr. and Mrs. Brem have one child, a promising son, named William T., who was born on September 9, 1875, and who is attending school at Oakdale, where he is well advanced. Mr. Brem is a Republican politically, and socially is a member of Oak Grove Lodge, A. O. U. W. Mr. and Mrs. Brem are members of the Reformed Church.

HON. WILLIAM O. MINOR, Judge of the Superior Court of Stanislaus county, was born in the State of Virginia, November 14, 1849, being the third of the six children of James H. and Mary W. (Morris) Minor, both natives of Virginia and of English descent. His ancestors, both paternal and maternal, were among the early Colonial settlers of that State. The father of our subject was by occupation a farmer and physician and on a farm young William was reared. His father died in 1862. His mother is still living.

Judge Minor, as above stated, passed his boyhood on a Virginia farm, with the exception, however, of a few years which were devoted to clerking. His education was received principally in Albemarle county of his native State. When about twenty-two years of age, he located in Pike county, Missouri, where he began the study of law, his preceptor being the eminent practitioner, Colonel Nicolas P. Minor, his uncle. He graduated in law and was admitted to the bar, and

practiced his profession there until 1876. That year he came to California and located in the city of Modesto. Here he resumed practice. Judge Minor was elected District Attorney of Stanislaus county in 1879, and continued in office until 1883. The following year he was elected Superior Judge, and has since filled that honored position, being now in his second term.

He was joined in marriage in Stanislaus county, October 10, 1878, with Miss Jennie V. Clarke, a native of California and a daughter of the late William A. Clarke, a California pioneer of 1849. Mr. Clarke died in August, 1891. The Judge and Mrs. Minor have three children, namely: Mary C., Lulu O., and an infant son.

Politically, he is a staunch advocate of the principles of Democracy, and may always be found allied with the progressive wing of his party. Socially, he affiliates with the K. of H. and the I. O. O. F., at this writing (1891) being Vice Grand in the last named order.

As a citizen and jurist, Judge Minor has the profound respect of the community, and is honored by the profession as a man of strict judicial integrity. He is a gentleman of quiet demeanor and uniform courtesy. Being a thorough student of the law, and having quick perceptions of the principles of justice, his decisions are seldom reversed by the higher tribunals.

JAMES CHARLES DAVEY, one of the old-time residents and prominent citizens of Stanislaus county, postoffice, Oakdale, California, is a native of New York State, born in Madison county, September 1, 1830, his parents being John and Catherine Davey. He was reared in his native State, and in 1853 came to California, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, making the journey on the Pacific side as a passenger on the steamer California, the Winfield Scott, which was to carry them from Panama, having been wrecked. He landed in San Francisco in November, 1853, and from there went to the mines at Montezuma, where he followed the fortunes of a miner for about a year. He then came down on the Stanislaus river, and mined at Short bar four or five years. He had a good mine there, and remained there until he had worked it out. He then came down to live near the mouth of the Stanislaus river, a little above Murphy's Ferry, and in partnership with George W. Lancaster, his present partner, began raising hogs, and also grain on a small scale. They raised about 100 acres of grain, principally barley, and were the first ones to engage in grain-raising on so large a scale. When the grain ripened they turned their hogs in. They drove them to the mines and found a ready market. Mr. Davey located where he now is, on the road between Oakdale and Knight's Ferry, in 1867, the preceding season having been a dry one. Mr. Davey, however, had driven his hogs over the mountains to Virginia city, and came out pretty well on them. Men who did not display unusual enterprise at that time fared badly. At his present location, Mr. Davey and partner have a little over 900 acres, their attention being devoted exclusively to grain-raising, wheat being their staple.

Mr. Davey is a Republican, politically. He is a member of the Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F.; of Ridgely Encampment, No. 68, Oakdale; and of Canton Manchester, No. 8, Patriarchs Militant, Oakdale, having passed the chairs in all. He was a representative to the Grand lodge in San Francisco in May, 1889.

RINNIS BROMLEY, M. D., of Sonora, is classed among the most able physicians and surgeons of California. He is a graduate of the State University, in the class of 1881. Immediately after completing his collegiate course he began the study of medicine at Oakland, under the preceptorship of the well known Dr. E. W. Buck of that city. Dr. Bromley attended lectures at the medical department of the University in San Francisco, and soon after became the assistant of A. F. Sawyer, M. D., of San Francisco, one of the most prominent surgeons of the Pacific coast. During the following three years Dr. Bromley gathered much valuable information and clinical knowledge through his daily visits at St. Luke's hospital, as visiting physician, a position to which he had been appointed. He was also appointed lecturer in surgery, and was the medical director for the entire Pacific coast in the interest of the Hartford Life Insurance Company, and made the appointments of all medical examiners throughout the coast for that company. The Doctor enjoyed an extensive and lucrative practice in the city of San Francisco until 1887, at which time he came to Tuolumne county and located at Sonora. Here he built up a general practice in a very short time. Although a young man in years, he is old in experience, and, to use the expression of Sonora's citizens, "has a large number of walking advertisements." The Doctor makes a specialty of surgery, and has given particular attention to diseases peculiar to women. He is a man who keeps abreast with the times, as is attested by the number of medical journals to be found on his office tables and the volumes contained in his library. He is the inventor of several surgical instruments which are fast coming into use by the profession. He has also contributed many valuable articles on medical treatment and surgery to the medical journals throughout the country.

Dr. Bromley is a native of the Golden State, born in Contra Costa county, under the shadow of Mount Diablo, January 24, 1857. His parents are John L. and Anna (Levering) Bromley, both natives of Baltimore, Maryland. Their ancestors were English people who came to America early in the seventeenth century and settled in New York State. From there the family tree branched to Vermont and Maryland. The Doctor's parents removed from Contra Costa county to Oakland in 1872, where he received his early education in the public schools. Aside from his profession he is interested in mining in Tuolumne county and also has devoted himself to scientific matters. He is part owner in the Eagle Rock mine, located on the Tuolumne river near Grove-

land, which is now being developed. This will doubtless become valuable property in the near future.

The Doctor is a single man. He is a staunch Republican, although he takes no active part in political matters, his time being occupied in professional duties. He is an active member of Tuolumne Parlor, No. 144, N. S. G. W. He is District and was Deputy Grand President, a representative to the Grand Parlor which met at Santa Rosa in April, 1891.

J. F. KERR.—Among the prominent and progressive farmers of Stanislaus county is the gentleman with whose name we introduce this brief sketch. Mr. Kerr was born in Pike county, Missouri, August 13, 1830. His father, Thomas G., was born in Augusta county, Virginia, of Scotch-Irish parents, and was a miller by occupation. He emigrated to Missouri in October, 1828, where he died August 31, 1834. His mother, Margaret J. Kerr, *nee* Culbreath, was also a native of Virginia, her people being of the early settlers of that State. She died in the month of February, 1887. An uncle and a cousin of hers participated in the battle of New Orleans, distinguishing themselves for bravery, and came out without a scratch.

Our subject was the third in a family of five children, his early life having been devoted to farming. In 1850 he crossed the plains to California, and followed mining in El Dorado county until 1852, when he returned to the States, remaining until 1865, when he again came to California, where he has since resided. In 1869 he pre-empted 160 acres of land, located one mile northeast of Salida, which is devoted entirely to grain-growing.

Mr. Kerr was married in Missouri, January 13, 1853, to Miss Martha Green, a native of Missouri, daughter of William D. Green, a native of Kentucky, who emigrated to Missouri in the early settlement of that State.

In Mr. Kerr's mining experience, he has, to say the least, been among the fairly successful ones, as he has also been in farming. He is a member of no secret societies, but takes an active part in local politics, his views being Democratic. He also took part in the organization of the Farmers' Savings Bank of Stanislaus county, now the Modesto Bank, in which he is a stockholder; and in 1874 he assisted in the organization of the Grangers' Bank of California, located in San Francisco, and he is still a stockholder in that also.

H. DAY, SR., editor and one of the proprietors of the *Calaveras Chronicle*, also a teacher in the public schools of twenty-four years' experience, dates his birth in New York city, September 1, 1850. His father, Francis Day, who is now eighty-one years of age, came to California in 1853, and engaged in mining and ranching successively. The family came to this State in 1854.

Professor Day was educated in the common schools of Calaveras county, and in 1868 graduated at the State Normal School. Since

then he has spent all of his time in the school-room, and, with the exception of two terms, has been principal of the Mokelumne Hill schools since 1874. In 1875 he was nominated by the Republican party for Superintendent of Schools, but was defeated in the election. As a public educator he possesses recognized ability. He is a thorough scholar and possesses that rare quality of imparting instruction to others in an impressive manner.

In August, 1880, he, with Mr. Burce, bought the *Calaveras Chronicle*, the oldest paper in California. It is a six-column paper, issued weekly. Since its establishment, October 9, 1851, it has never missed an issue. It is well edited and lively, and in politics is Republican.

Professor Day was married, in 1884, to Etta Peck, a native of California and a daughter of Thomas Peck, a pioneer of this State. Their children are Frank H., Jr.; Etta Josephine and Anna Maud. He is both a Mason and Odd Fellow, and has hosts of friends.

MRS. ETHEL WILLARD ADAMS, proprietor of Table Mountain Ranch, was born in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1858. Her parents were L. A. and Lucy A. (Ware) Willard, the latter being a daughter of Dr. John Ware, of Boston. Miss Willard was educated in the best private schools of her native city and came to California with her parents in 1884. She was married in 1886.

Mrs. Adams, although reared in a city, has always had a passion for animals, especially thoroughbred horses and cows; and when she visited the above named ranch she became impressed with the rare beauty of its situation and its possibilities in the way of being made one of the finest ranches in California. Having this idea in mind, after purchasing the property she took charge of the work of improvement, and has so far expended some $25,000 in carrying out her plans. The following description of the property is not out of place in this connection.

Table Mountain Ranch is situated one mile east of Murphy's, an old-time mining town of Calaveras county. It consists of 320 acres in one tract called the home farm and some 400 acres of grazing land on the Stanislaus river near by. Its broad pastures are dotted over with the finest stock. We note the following: Sixty-five head of registered Jersey cattle; sixty-five head of beef cattle; 100 imported thoroughbred Duroc Jersey swine, and some thirty horses. She carries on a dairy, making the choicest butter from her Jersey cows, which meets a ready sale in the adjoining towns. Her dairy is supplied with the newest and most approved machinery in the way of separators, power churns, etc.

On this ranch are found English walnuts, almonds, French prunes, peaches, grapes and apples. 150 acres can be irrigated from natural springs, the waters of which are collected in a large reservoir for this purpose. The remainder of the land can be irrigated from the Union ditch, which runs along the mountain side just above the property. A line of pipe from this ditch supplies the

house, barns, and stock with water for domestic purposes as well as for irrigating the gardens and for protection against fire. With engines, boilers, crushing and grinding mills, cutters, etc., corn, wheat, barley and hay are cut, ground, steamed and prepared for the stock during the winter season. In short this is a model farm conducted entirely by a woman.

Mrs. Adams takes great pride in her stock, and is a fearless and skilful rider and driver. She possesses rare executive ability and conducts her extensive farming interests in the most judicious manner. Her foreman is George J. Hinkston, a most practical, experienced and efficient stockman and farmer.

JOSEPHUS McDONOUGH.—The subject of this sketch is a native of the Buckeye State, born May 12, 1853. His parents, John and Magdalena (Topper) McDonough, both now deceased, were of Scotch and Dutch extraction. To them were born nine children, of whom Josephus was the seventh. He was reared on a farm and educated at South Bend, Indiana, whither his parents had moved. In 1877 he came to California and engaged in farming in Colusa county, remaining there a year and a half; thence to Stanislaus county. His present farm is located eleven miles southwest of Modesto, and consists of 240 acres. His chief farm product is grain. He has given some attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of blooded horses.

Mr. McDonough was married in Stanislaus county, September 11, 1883, to Miss Hattie B. Amsbough, a native of California. They have an interesting family of three children,—Eunice E., Mary E. and Clarence R.

Mr. McDonough gives his vote and influence with the Democratic party. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry of Modesto.

JAMES CAMPBELL BAXTER, one of the large land-owners of Merced county, was born in Nova Scotia, March 19, 1841, and is a son of David and Eleanor (Waugh) Baxter. These parents reared a family of eleven children; the father died in 1848, and the mother in 1880. Our subject carried on farming in his native country until 1868, when he came to California via Panama, landing in San Francisco May 16. Determined to succeed, he embraced the first opportunity offered him, and for a year worked by the day in San Joaquin county. He then rented land, which he cultivated on his own account until 1874, when he came to Merced county. He has been very prosperous in all his undertakings, and is now the owner of 2,500 acres of choice land, ten miles east of Athlone. We are thus furnished with another example of what may be accomplished when ambition and energy are the powers that move.

Mr. Baxter was united in marriage, in 1862, to Miss Agnes Miller, a daughter of Andrew Miller. To them were born nine children: David, deceased; George W.; Mag-

gie E., wife of E. D. Kahl; James R.; David A.; Mary, deceased; Jerdine, and Harrison, deceased. The mother died November 13, 1891, aged forty-nine years. She was an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Plainsburg, and a woman of much force of character. Mr. Baxter is a member of the same church, and enjoys the respect and confidence of a wide circle of acquaintances.

MRS. HANNAH J. DAVIS, widow of the late H. T. Davis, resides on her fine farm of 400 acres, located ten miles southwest of Modesto.

Mrs. Davis, whose maiden name was Rudolph, was, as the name indicates, born of German parents, her native State being Pennsylvania. In her father's family were five children, she being the second. September 20, 1855, she was united in marriage, in Iowa, with H. T. Davis, who was born in Greene county, Vermont, March 29, 1814, a descendant of Scotch and English ancestors who were among the early settlers of New England. In 1862 they crossed the plains to California and located in San Joaquin county, where Mr. Davis engaged in farming. In 1867 he removed to Stanislaus county and settled on the farm on which his widow and a portion of her family now reside. This valuable property is a stock and grain ranch, and is under a high state of cultivation. To Mr. and Mrs. Davis were born eight children, namely: Mary I., John O., Clara E., George E., Lillie M., Laura B., William B. and Horace G. All are living except the last named, who died May 1, 1868. Mary I., the oldest daughter, is the wife of C. H. Cary, a resident of Merced county. Lillie M., wife of Ira M. Bailey, also lives in Merced county. Mr. Davis departed this life in 1888. He was a prosperous and enterprising man, a successful farmer and a worthy citizen. Mrs. Davis is a lady of culture and refinement, and is held in high esteem by a large circle of friends. Her father, Mr. Rudolph, was born January 1, 1810, and now resides with her at the old homestead.

P. F. MORTON.—The gentleman with whose name we head this notice is a member of the Board of City Trustees of Modesto, California, and one of the substantial farmers of Stanislaus county. A brief *resumé* of his life is as follows:

P. F. Morton was born in Hatfield, Massachusetts, July 9, 1824. His father, Cotton Morton, was also born in Massachusetts, of Scotch extraction. His ancestors were of the old Puritan stock. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Nancy Herriek, was also reared in Massachusetts. The Morton family moved to Illinois in 1838 and settled in Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois. There P. F. Morton finished his schooling and grew up, inured to farm work. The family consisted of seven children, he being the second. After reaching man's estate he was engaged in the grocery business at Princeton, Illinois, for some years before the war.

In 1864, Mr. Morton crossed the plains to California, arriving in this State after a journey of four months. He first located at Stockton, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1868. That year he moved to Modesto. At one time he owned a large portion of the land on which this flourishing city now stands. This property he disposed of some years ago. He still owns 960 acres of farm land, twelve miles east of Modesto and in Stanislaus county, all under cultivation and rented to tenants. Politically, Mr. Morton is a Democrat, although he takes no active part in political matters. Some years ago he served as a member of the Board of School Trustees.

Mr. Morton was married in Illinois, in 1854, to Miss Elinor Garman, a native of New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Morton have an interesting family of eight children, whose names are as follows: Isabel, Cuba, Minnie, Molley, Lena, Fred, William and Hattie. They have lost one son.

G. B. DOUGLASS, County Surveyor of Stanislaus county, California, is one of the pioneers of this State. The biography of Mr. Douglass, if written out fully, would require far more space than can be given it in a work of this character. We shall, therefore, not attempt a detailed account of his eventful career, but simply state a few facts in connection with his life.

G. B. Douglass is a native of Tennessee, and first saw the light in Sumner county, August 2, 1824. His father, Elmore Douglass, was born in Tennessee, and his mother, whose maiden name was Eliza Fulton, was a native of Baltimore, Maryland. At an early age Mr. Douglass wandered away from the parental roof, and has since visited the four quarters of the globe. His knowledge of the world has been gained largely in the school of experience, and his store of practical information is far greater than that of the average man. A great reader, he is well informed on ancient history, scientific subjects, and the current topics of the day.

Mr. Douglass first visited California in 1845, having rounded the Cape of Good Hope in the old frigate Constitution. There are perhaps but few of the pioneers now living whose advent into the State antedates that period. In 1849, he again visited the Golden State. This time, however, he crossed the plains, with Colonel Jack Hayes of Texas, and located for a time at Stockton. Later he visited the mining counties, and engaged in mining some two years at Murphy's camp, Calaveras county. He came to Stanislaus county in 1866, although he had been a resident of the county prior to that date. In 1866 he was elected county Surveyor, and has been in office ever since with the exception of one term. He holds the office at this writing (1891) by appointment, having been appointed in October by the Board of Supervisors, to fill the unexpired term of F. S. Land, resigned.

Mr. Douglass resides ten miles south of Modesto, where he owns 160 acres of farming land, which is devoted to the production of

grain. Politically, he is a stanch Democrat. He affiliates with the K. of P. and the U. A. O. D., and also has a membership in the Stanislaus County Pioneer Association. Mr. Donglass is unmarried.

WILLIAM W. EASTMAN, dentist, Washiugton street, Sonora.—Dr. Eastman is a native of the Pine Tree State, and dates his birth in Exoter, Penobscot county, July 20, 1860, where he was reared and educated. He is the youngest in a family of six children. His parents were Hammon and Julia A. (White) Eastman, both of whom were also natives of Maine. The mother is now deceased. His ancestors, both paternal and maternal, traced their origin back to the Welsh. Sometime in the seventeenth century they came to America and located in Maine. The Doctor's paternal grandfather was a patriot soldier and held the rank of Major during the Revolutionary war.

The subject of our sketch studied dentistry in Corinth, Maine, and practiced his profession in Guilford, Maine, some two years prior to visiting California. In 1884 he and his wife visited several of the noted health resorts of the State, hoping to recruit the declining health of Mrs. Eastman; but to no avail, as she soon afterward passed away. After spending a few months in Nevada county, the Doctor concluded to locate at Sonora, which he did in 1886, at once entering upon the practice of his profession,—a practice which has become lucrative and is still increasing, extending from the city into various portions of the county. November, 1890, Dr. Eastman was elected county Coroner on the Democratic ticket, that being the party to which he is allied. The Doctor is popular not only as a professional man, but also as a public-spirited citizen. He takes an active part in all public enterprises which have for their purpose the advancement and progress of city and county. Socially, he affiliates with the I. O. O. F. of Sonora, and is now officially connected with the lodge.

Dr. Eastman's second marriage occurred in Tuolumne county, in November, 1887, when he wedded Miss Jessie A. Richards, a native of California, and a daughter of John Richards, who came to this State early in the '50s. They have one son, Fred E.

B. HOISHOLT, watchmaker, engraver and jeweler, Oakdale, California. Among the representative business men of Oakdale who are justly entitled to honorable mention in this work is the above named gentleman.

Mr. Hoisholt is a native of Denmark, and dates his birth November 5, 1860. His parents, Adolph and Christiana (Rude) Hoisholt, natives of Denmark, had four children born to them, our subject being the second. Three of the family now reside in California. Mr. Hoisholt was reared and educated in the land of his birth, and there partially learned the trade, completing the same after his arrival in the Golden State. He first resided with relatives in Stockton, and later, in 1858,

permanently located in Oakdale. Here he established himself in business on Railroad Avenue, where he carries a large and well-selected stock of clocks, watches, and gold and silverware of all the latest designs and patterns. He also makes a specialty of fitting and repairing glasses, all work done in a neat manner, and warranted. Mr. Hoisholt is a skillful workman, and has by fair and honorable dealing gained for himself a reputation second to none in the county.

January 15, 1889, he was joined in marriage with Miss Catharine Greiersen, a native of California, and daughter of George Greiersen. A sketch of her father will be found on another page of this work. They have two children, namely: Estella and George. Politically, Mr. Hoisholt is a Republican. He is a member of Willow Lodge, K. of P., of Stockton.

MANUEL GRAY, a practical farmer residing eight miles southeast of Oakdale, California, is a native of England, born in 1830, his parents being Luke and Sarah Gray, both natives of England. They were the parents of eight children, Manuel being the third. He was reared and educated in his native country, and went from there to the province of Newfoundland, where he was engaged for two and a half years in fishing; thence to the State of Maine.

In 1854 Mr. Gray came to California, making the journey by way of Nicaragua. He first located in Tuolumne county, where he followed mining some ten years, not being among the successful ones, however. He then came to Stanislaus county and rented a farm near Oakdale, and farmed there for five years, at the expiration of which time he located on his present farm of 160 acres, which is all under cultivation, utilized as a stock and grain ranch.

He was joined in marriage in Stanislaus county, February 13, 1889, with an estimable widow, Mrs. Caroline Smith, a native of Missouri. Politically, Mr. Gray is a Republican, and socially, affiliates with the A. O. U. W. of Oakdale.

ADOLPH WIDMAN was born in Heilbron, Germany, in 1824, and came to the United States in 1848, locating in New Orleans, where he worked in the machine shops. In 1849 he went to St. Joseph, Missouri, and from thence overland to Salt Lake City, and he arrived in California May 2, 1850. Here he was for some years employed in mining and building quartz mills, until in 1857 he went to San Francisco, where he engaged in the wholesale slaughtering business. He remained in this line for a couple of years, until 1859, when he went into the gold and silver refining trade on Brannan and Seventh streets, San Francisco. He was engaged in this business for ten years, when he purchased the old ranch in Sonoma county, and went into horticultural work, which he followed for three years. At the end of this time he went on an expedition to Mineral King mining district, and subsequently located at

Los Baños, where he has since resided. He took up two fine claims near the present town of Volta, where he has made a beautiful home. His taste for horticulture is plainly visible in his surroundings, all semi-tropical fruits being produced in great abundance on his place, and he has practically demonstrated the fact that Merced county is adapted to fruit culture as well as to the growing of cereals.

Mr. Widman served the public as Postmaster, under Grover Cleveland's administration, and is well and favorably known all over the county.

He keeps a public wayside house at old Los Baños, where the many travelers may stop and be refreshed. He is an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, and is respected by all who know him.

GEORGE C. TRYON, a venerable "Forty-niner," was born in the city of New York, March 29, 1828. His parents, John and Eliza (Clifton) Tryon, natives of Dublin and Edinburgh respectively, had a family of seven sons, he being the youngest. He was educated in the public schools, and at the age of fourteen years left home to do for himself. January 31, 1849, he left New York city on board the bark Mara for California. They landed at Vera Cruz, went across Mexico, and at San Blas bought a small vessel, from whence they sailed to Monterey, California, and thence by land to San Francisco, landing at the latter place the last of June, 1849.

Arrived in this State, Mr. Tryon at once struck out for the mines at Yuba, and for several years he followed mining with good success. Indeed, mining has been his occupation for the last forty years in one way or another. In 1850 he came to Mokelumne Hill, Calaveras county, and has been a citizen of Angel's ever since 1853. From 1863 to 1887 he was owner and proprietor of the Angel's Hotel. Mr. Tryon is well known in Calaveras county, having been county Assessor two terms, assistant Assessor of internal revenue, county Sheriff in 1862–'64, and deputy Sheriff two terms. As a public officer he made a clear record and won many friends. He is one of the most highly respected citizens in the county.

Mr. Tryon was married, in 1856, to Miss Adelia Newman, who was born in New York, daughter of James and Kate Nowman. The children born to them are: Kate, wife of C. A. Bryant; Walter; Charles; Milton, deceased; George, deceased; Thomas, deceased; Henry, deceased; Adelia, wife of E. T. Mattison; George, James and John. The mother died December 2, 1887. Mr. Tryon is living a quiet, retired life.

FREDRICK W. REYNOLDS.—Among the hardy sons of California and substantial farmers of Stanislaus county is the above named gentleman.

Mr. Reynolds was born in Tuolumne county, August 29, 1866, his parents being Wells and Lydia (Clearwater) Reynolds, the former a native of Rhode Island and the lat-

ter of New York. Wells Reynolds is a California pioneer of 1850, and followed mining for several years after his arrival in the State. He still resides in Stanislaus county, near Modesto.

Our subject was reared and educated in Stanislaus county, and began the battle of life at an early age. He is the youngest in a family of five children, and was reared to farm life. He resided for a time in Merced county; has farmed near Modesto and also Knight's Ferry. In 1889 he rented the place which he now cultivates, fourteen miles southeast of Oakdale. Here he farms 960 acres, utilizing it as a grain and stock ranch. He was married, in Tuolumne county, October 7, 1891, to Miss Clara Adams, a native of California, and daughter of Sylvester Adams, one of the old and respected pioneers of 1851, who followed mining for a number of years. Then he followed farming and fruit-raising. Mr. Reynolds is a Democrat and takes an active part in local politics.

F. B. BOONE is a native of Tuolumne county, California, born February 9, 1865, and in that county he was reared and educated. His parents, Tobias B. and and Caroline (Blackwell) Boone, were natives of Maryland and Arkansas respectively. In their family of eight children, the subject of our sketch was the fourth-born.

After completing his education, Mr. Boone was variously occupied until 1887, at which time he located at Knight's Ferry and established himself in the butchering business. This business he has since conducted, having a good trade and being financially successful. He runs two wagons to supply customers in the town and surrounding country, his route extending many miles into the interior.

Mr. Boone is a man of family. He was married at Stockton, February 23, 1887, to Miss Rena Armstrong, a native of Arkansas, and their two children are: Gracie E. and Ora E.

He is allied with the Democratic party, although he takes little active interest in political matters. He is a member of Stanislaus Lodge, No. 170, I. O. O. F., of Knight's Ferry.

G. L. STURGEON, ex-Supervisor of Merced county, is a native of Maine, where he was born April 19, 1828. His parents were S. D. and Olivia (Enos) Sturgeon, both natives of Ireland. They had nine children, the subject of our sketch being the fourth in order of birth. Mr. Sturgeon was reared on a farm, and when twenty-five years of age, in 1853, came to California across the plains. He first located in Contra Costa county, where he was engaged for a couple of years in the redwoods, after which he went to mining in Amador county. In 1858 he began ranching, and ten years later, in 1868, came to Merced county and bought 320 acres on the West Side. He is now the possessor of over 1,500 acres of fine agricultural land, and is one of the largest wheat-growers in the county.

He was married May 4, 1856, to Mrs. Abigail Moudenhall, a daughter of William

and Sarah Mendenhall, who were early settlers of California. They have two children; Innis and Abbie.

Mr. Sturgeon has served as School Trustee for some fifteen years, and takes a deep interest in all public enterprises. He is a director and stockholder in the Ingomar Warehouse Company, and has been one of the prime movers of this institution. His home, located eight miles south of Newman and twenty miles west of Los Baños, is pleasantly situated, and is surrounded with all material comforts.

JOSEPH A. WORTHINGTON, attorney at law and Notary Public, at Los Baños, is a native of the Buckeye State, and came to California in 1853. He has since been identified with various enterprises in different parts of the State, and is widely and favorably known. He began the practice of law in Los Baños fifteen years ago, and has been an interested witness of the marvelous development of the country. He has established a large professional clientage, and has the reputation of being a good orator.

NICHOLAS BIBBY, ex-Supervisor of Merced county, was born in the city of Troy, New York, in 1832. His parents were John and Hettie (Lindopt) Bibby. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Bibby, was a Welshman, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and in the war of 1812, having renounced his allegiance to the British crown to do service for the United States. He was generally known as Captain Thomas Bibby.

The subject of our sketch was the third in a family of four children. He was educated at the common schools, afterward learning the trade of blacksmithy. When twenty years of age, in 1852, he crossed the plains to California, spending six long months on the road. He drove a team the whole distance and brought sheep and cattle with him on the long journey. Arriving in Sacramento, he worked at his trade for a short time, later going to the mines in Nevada county, where he was very successful, making in eighteen months $10,500 clear of all expenses. Here he relinquished a claim which was paying $10 a day, and went to Siskiyou county, engaging in the dairy business. Afterward he went to Solano county and entered the stock business, in which he was engaged for seven years. In the fall of 1863 he went to Napa county, engaging in farming and stock-raising, where he failed in business, his ill-luck being caused by the floods, by which he lost many cattle and sheep. Removing from that locality, he came to Merced county in 1869, and took up Government land on the West Side. Here he has been very successful, and now owns 740 acres of fine agricultural land, all situated under the canal. Over these fine pastures roam many hundreds of fine cattle and horses.

He was married in 1857, to Miss Mary Robinson, a native of Missouri. They have ten children: Anna M., wife of M. F. Lundy; Enoch, John, William R., Edward, Hettie

(wife of Charles Cothrane), Ida M., Samuel, Nicholas and George.

Socially Mr. Bibby is a Mason, Royal Arch, also a Knight of Pythias and A. O. U. W. March 10, 1882, he was appointed by the Governor as Supervisor of District No. 3, and in 1879 was elected by the people for that district. He has been School Trustee for thirteen successive years, and was one of the organizers of the Monroe School District. On his farm is a race-track, which has been leased for five years to famous horse-trainers.

JOHN S. CADY, Postmaster of Sonora, California.—Among the prominent and progressive citizens of Tuolumne county none are more worthy of notice on the pages of this work than the gentleman with whose name we head this sketch. He has been prominently identified with the growth and prosperity of the above named county since 1852.

Mr. Cady is a descendant of one of the old and influential families of Massachusetts. His ancestors came to this country from England and located in Massachusetts early in the sixteenth century. His grandfather on the maternal side, and grand uncles, three in number, on the paternal side, were patriot soldiers in the Revolutionary war. The parents of our subject were Daniel and Elizabeth (Romand) Cady. The former was a soldier in the war of 1812, and died in 1874, and the latter a year later. Their family was composed of six children, John S. being the third-born. He was reared in the State of Massachusetts, where he was born, near Pittsfield, February 19, 1825. His early life was spent on a farm. He started to California in 1851, taking passage on the steamer North America, which went ashore and was wrecked. Fortunately, however, no lives were lost. The voyage was continued from Acapulco in the clipper ship Northern Light, which landed passengers at San Francisco early in the month of May, 1852. The twentieth day of the same month found him actively engaged in mining in Tuolumne county. He followed mining some eighteen months, after which he was employed as a clerk in a mercantile house in Sonora until 1855. Then he made a visit back to the haunts of his childhood, and while on this visit he was married. In 1858, accompanied by his wife, he came back to the Golden State via Panama. He again located in Tuolumne county and engaged in mining, with fair success until 1860, when he established himself in a mercantile business at Sonora. This he still continues, carrying on a paper-hanging and decorating business and keeping a general line of window shades, etc. Formerly he kept a stock of lead, oil, doors, etc.

Politically, he is a stanch Republican and has always taken an active part in the affairs of county and State. He has been chairman of the County Central Committee and a delegate to State and county conventions almost continuously for the past twenty years, and during the '60s was one of the city trustees for a period of four years. He was appointed Postmaster March 20, 1890, and is filling that office most acceptably to the people. He

is still interested in mining property, owning a portion of the extension on the famous Bonanza lode. He has never lost hope in the future prosperity of Tuolumne county's mining industries. Besides his attractive home he also owns other resident property in Sonora. He is a member of the Chosen Friends, of which order he has been secretary for some eleven years. He also holds a membership in the beneficiary order, Golden Shore, of San Francisco.

Mr. Cady was joined in marriage, September 5, 1855, with Miss Mary M. Curtiss, a native of Massachusetts. He and his wife are spending the evening of life alone, death having robbed them of their treasures of love in infancy.

JUDGE B. F. DAVIS, of Los Baños, is a pioneer of the pioneers, and a man in every sense worthy of recognition in a work of this character, and, indeed, it is to be regretted that only an outline of his eventful life can be given; enough, however, can be recited to show the character of the man. In Merced county, Judge Davis is a "living epistle," known and received by all men. He is noted for his integrity, and having served the county as Supervisor and in a number of minor offices, no one in the county would intimate that Judge Davis was ever guilty of even a slight crookedness. Such characters are to be admired, and they are admired.

B. F. Davis is a native of Missouri, and was born March 2, 1833. His parents were D. B. and Rebecca Davis. They moved to Illinois, where the father died at the advanced age of ninety-five years. They had eight children, of which the subject of this sketch was the oldest. He was at first educated in a log schoolhouse, but later, in 1845, graduated in the Columbia College. His father was a wealthy man, and gave his children every advantage. He furnished B. F. with money for a trip abroad, and he visited Egypt and various other countries of note. In 1846 he went to Santa Fé, New Mexico, and in 1848 drove a Government team to Fort Laramie on the Platte river, thence to the headwaters of the Snake river, where he hunted and trapped. The following year he went to the Red Buttes and to what is now the State of Kansas, thence 600 miles down the Snake river, and in 1854 drove cattle across the plains from the Missouri river to California, a trip of ninety days. For seven years he was in the cattle business in Solano county. In 1869 he went to Fraser river on a mining and prospecting expedition, and in August of that year returned to Missouri. In 1865, it should be stated, he went to Pike's Peak, thence to Arizona, afterward to San Diego and from there to Solano county. After he returned from Fraser river, he located on the west side of Merced county, where he has accumulated a comfortable income. He is one of Merced's most successful farmers, and owns 340 acres of fine agricultural land.

He was married in 1853, to Feriza Missouri Phipps, a native of Arkansas. Her father died on the plains while emigrating to California. Their children are: Alice May, wife of Charles Silvari, Charles B. and Walter M.

In polities, Judge Davis is a Democrat, and has served the county in various capacities; first, as Roadmaster, then as Supervisor of District No. 3, from 1875 to 1887. In 1890 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and has given complete satisfaction. He is a charter member of Los Baños Lodge, No. 193, A O. U. W.

D. H. GRUBB, one of the prosporous farmers of Merced county, California, was born in East Tennessee in 1835, and is a son of Darius and Sarah (Heiskell) Grubb, natives of Virginia. They were the parents of nine children, D. H. being the youngest. The father was a planter and a slave owner; he died in Tennessee in 1844. When our subject was a lad of fourteen years he started out in life for himself. In 1862 he abandoned all private interests and enlisted in Company G, Colonel Rowan's regiment, and served in the Confederate army until July 4, 1863; he participated in the engagements at Vicksburg, and was stationed in that city for eight months. February 28, 1868, he left New York city on the steamer Atlantic, for California, going via the Isthmus; after crossing Panama he took passage on the Golden City for San Francisco, and arrived in that city March 23; he continued his journey to Stockton, and thence went to Patterson's place, near Oakdale, where he was engaged in farming two years.

Mr. Grubb has been a resident of Merced county since 1883, at which time he purchased 500 acres where he now lives, one mile northwest of Snelling. He devotes his time to farming and the raising of live-stock, carrying on the business with a system and understanding that have brought about excellent results.

He was married in 1861, to Miss Sarah Carson, a native of Monroe county, Tennessee, and a daughter of Amos and Caroline (Green) Carson. The children born of this union are: Elizabeth, Charles F., George L., James J., Daniel H. and William D. Politically, Mr. G. is an intelligent supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and a strong advocate of high license.

A. W. JOHNSON, one of the enterprising young men who are carving out their fortunes in Stanislaus county, is a native of Sweden, having been born at Gotteborg, in that country, on the 31st of May, 1860. His parents were Andrew and Bjorda (Coulson) Johnson. He attended school between the years of 1867 and 1870, after which he was engaged in farm work for an uncle. In 1883 he came to America, via Hull, Liverpool and New York, locating in California. He worked for a while at San Francisco, afterwards going to Colusa, where he engaged in farm work for two years and a half. Later, returning to San Francisco, he was employed for two years in the oyster beds. He next began farming on his own account at Atlanta, San Joaquin county, where he remained two years, removing later to Stanislaus county. He has farmed in his present location since 1890. Here he has

480 acres devoted to grain raising, in which he is very successful, as he follows the practice of summer fallowing.

He was married in San Joaquin county on the 5th of October, 1889, to Miss Mary Mikkelson. She is a native of Denmark, born in in 1859, and coming to this country in 1884. They are members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Johnson is a good representative of what industry and progress can accomplish, when combined with intelligence and sustained by moral training.

HON. THOMAS HARDY was born in Danvers, Massachusetts, September 10, 1816. His parents were Isaac and Lydia (Herrick) Hardy, natives of New Hampshire and Massachusetts respectively, and of English descent. They had a family of four children, Thomas being the second-born. He attended the public schools until he was sixteen years old, after which he learned the trade of tanner and currier. At the age of twenty-one he engaged in business for himself at Danvers, Massachusetts. Six years later he sold out and went to Louisiana under contract to carry on business for another man. After ten months he bought out his principal and established a shoe store. He introduced the first splitting machine in the State of Louisiana, and made the first shoes for the negroes in the State.

In 1849 he came to California, via Panama, on the Colonel Stanton, and many were the dangers they encountered on that voyage. At last, September 14, 1849, they landed in San Francisco, having lost sixteen of their company by cholera on the Isthmus of Panama. He paid $40 for his passage from San Francisco to Sacramento, on a schooner, and it took fourteen days to make the journey. Then he went to the mines. He paid $60 for a rocker, $16 for a shovel, and $30 for a pair of boots. Provisions were $1.50 a pound; onions, $3.50 per pound. This was at Auburn in the winter of 1849. Many times he made $50 a day in his mining operations, in various localities, and was very successful as a mining man. At Volcano he made $1,100 a month for three months, and sold out for $1,500, when he went to quartz mining at Carson Hill. After that he returned to San Francisco and took charge of the Mountain Lake Water Works, as superintendent. There he continued for about two years. In 1855 he began mining in Stanislaus county. In 1860 he engaged in the butcher business, and in five years made $20,000. Then he invested in the copper mines at Copperopolis, and in 1864 sold out for $375,000. At this time he was elected to the State Senate, and served four years. After his retirement from public life he again engaged in mining. In San Luis Obispo county, he bought several thousand acres of land, and was making the finest homestead in the State when his mining operations failed, and through some of his business relations he lost heavily and had to give it up. At this time he was contracting to build a dry dock in San Francisco, at Hunter's Point, and lost heavily in the enterprise. Since then he has engaged in

mining, and is now interested in several good paying mines. It may be truthfully said of Mr. Hardy that a more liberal, public-spirited man never lived. He has had an iron constitution, and his ambition knew no bounds. Many times he has boldly and fearlessly risked his own life when others were in danger. If all that he has done and all that he has endured as a pioneer in the wilds of California could be written, it would make a large and interesting volume; but enough has been said to convey to the reader the character of the man, and those who know him will know that it is truth.

He was married in 1863, to Martha Neal, and has four children, viz.: Lydia, who is a teacher in Massachusetts; Lincoln Farragut, in San Francisco; Florence and Thomas Jefferson, in Massachusetts.

Mr. Hardy is an honored member of the I. O. O. F., and in politics is a Republican.

He was at the head of the Vigilant Committee at Volcano in early days, and was a terror to evil-doers, as many a Californian now living can attest.

NORMAN SMITH, one of the venerable pioneers of Calaveras county, California, is a "Blnenose." He was born at Dorchester, New Brunswick, November 12, 1828, the fifth in the family of nine children of Charles D. and Mary (Wilson) Smith. He attended the common schools till he was seventeen years old, when he went to sea as an apprentice, making several voyages between St. John and ports in Great Britain.

January 3, 1849, Mr. Smith sailed from New York on board the Mazeppa for California, around Cape Horn, landing in San Francisco, December 1, after a voyage of nearly a year. Like all others, he went to mining, locating at Angel's, where he has been engaged in mining operations ever since. He is a practical mining man, having mined in placer, gravel and quartz.

In 1855 he built a residence near Angel's, where he still lives and where his children have been reared and educated. His marriage occurred January 23, 1855, to Miss Catharine Younger, a native of New York. Their children are as follows: Florence, wife of Lewis Cutler; Dr. Charles D. Smith, a dentist of Angel's; and Norman J.

At the present time Mr. Smith is employed in the Utica Chlorination and Reduction Works. He is a most worthy citizen, and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

JACOB GARDNER, Deputy Sheriff of Merced county, is a native of Illinois, and was born May 28, 1848. His parents were Jacob and Sophia Gardner, natives of Germany. "Jake" is the third in a family of seven children, and spent his early years on a farm in his native State. In 1852 his parents removed to California and located in Tuolumne county, here he attended the common schools. When twenty-five years of age, he left home and went to farming for himself. In 1878 he located near Los Baños and took up a claim and went to farming.

He also owns seventeen and a half acres in Los Baños. In May, 1890, he opened up the Pioneer Livery Stables. He also owns and operates a livery stable in Santa Cruz, located on Pacific avenue. He keeps a full line of horses and buggies and makes a specialty of fine saddle horses for both ladies and gentlemen.

He was married, in 1874, to Elizabeth Harbert, a native of Missouri. Their four children are named Carrie, Etta, Ruby and Willard.

G. F. WESSON, a well-known citizen of San Andreas, California, who for many years has been prominently identified with the public affairs of Calaveras county, belongs to that distinguished class of people known far and wide as Forty-niners.

He was born in Providence, Rhode Island, March 21, 1829. His parents, Phineas and Lucy (Smith) Wesson, natives of Massachusetts, had a family of seven children, he being the fourth-born. When a young man he learned the jeweler's trade and worked at it two years and a half in Providence. March 3, 1849, he sailed from his native city on the bark Nahumkeg for San Francisco, around Cape Horn, landing at his destination November 19, after a voyage of eight and a half months. Like others, he went to the mines, and followed mining several years, with good success. After this he clerked in a store a year, when he was appointed Tax Collector and Deputy Sheriff, and at the expiration of his appointment was elected to that office, holding the same four years. In 1861 he was elected county Clerk, and served one term. He then spent six months in Nevada, mining. Returning, he was elected Assessor and Tax Collector, and served two terms. He was then Deputy Sheriff and Tax Collector two years under B. K. Thorn. After this he opened a saloon at Mokelumne Hill and ran it two years. The following two years he served as under Sheriff. Since then he has been in the saloon business in San Andreas. He owns some valuable quartz mines at San Andreas, which he has begun to develop and which promise rich returns.

Mr. Wesson was married, in November, 1864, to Mary A. Coulley, a native of Ireland. She came around the Horn to California in 1847 on the Susan Drew, the first ship the United States ever built. She attended the first English-speaking school at Monterey, and afterward taught school in Calaveras county. They have three children: Henry, Fred and Lessie. Albert and Adelaide died of diphtheria, at the ages of six and four years respectively.

EDMUND RUSSELL was born in Franklin county, Tennessee, July 8, 1833, a son of Edmund and Henrietta (Sargent) Russell. The father was a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, and served as county Clerk of Franklin county from the time he reached his majority until he was forty-one years of age; he was also engaged in the mercantile business for several years. Edmund Russell, Jr., was reared to the life of a

farmer, and at the early age of sixteen years assumed the responsibility of caring for himself. In 1843 his parents removed to Arkansas, and in 1852 he made the journey across the plains to California by the southern route, arriving in San Diego county, October 10; William Johnson was captain of the company of which he was a member, and there were seventy men in the band besides the women and children. In Los Angeles county Mr. Russell and his brother purchased a quarter section of land which they improved, but in 1855 they were compelled to relinquish it on account of a Spanish grant. Not discouraged by this misfortune, our subject then bought land near Azusa, his purchase being the second made in that place; two years later he traded the tract for cattle, which he drove to Merced county, where he and his brother bought the old Stokes farm at sheriff's sale; later on they bought the 320 acres adjoining it, and also the old Allen ranch. In 1866 they dissolved partnership Mr. Russell now has a fine farm of near 400 acres, which is devoted to the raising of wheat; he has carried on his agricultural pursuits with marked ability, and ranks with the most intelligent husbandmen of the county.

He was united in marriage in 1867, to Amanda M. Lewis, a native of Texas, and a daughter of Jacob and Eliza Lewis, well-known pioneers of Mariposa county. To them have been born nine children: Elijah T., William M. (deceased), Orin L., Mary H., John E., Elizabeth A., Amanda E., Grayson L. and Amy F. Mr. Russell is a loyal friend to education, and has served as School Trustee a number of terms; he was also Supervisor from 1865 to 1867. He is a stanch advocate of the principles of temperance, and it is to men of this true and reliable type that the prosperity of the State of California is due.

MICAJAH MASEY RITCHEY was born in Warren county, Tennessee, in April, 1832, and is a son of David P. and Stacy (Brown) Ritchey. During his youth his opportunities of acquiring an education were limited, but he learned the trade of blacksmith, and engaged in business for himself at the age of nineteen years. He was following this peaceful pursuit when the dark war cloud spread from horizon to zenith, and he abandoned all private interests to enlist in the Confederate army. He was a member of Captain Wood's Company, Cleburne's Division, and served two years and seven months. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Missionary Ridge, Chickamauga, and several smaller engagements. In 1864 he went home on a furlough, and again took up his trade. He was thus employed until 1870, and in that year he came to California; he located four miles north of Modesto, where he worked at his trade until 1883. He then purchased land near Merced, and in 1888 he removed to his present home, three miles southeast of Plainsburg. He owns 800 acres of fine agricultural land, and has been very prosperous in all his farming operations.

Mr. Ritchey was united in marriage in 1854, to Laura Matilda Cunningham, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of Thomas and

Matilda (Hayes) Cunningham. They are the parents of the following children: Emma, wife of John A. Perry; Albert D., deceased; Fannie H.; wife of J. S. Woothen; Joe S.; Samuel H.; Myra, wife of Samuel Skaggs; Ira D.; David A.; Thomas G.; May, deceased; Malcolm, deceased; and James Buchanan, deceased.

Mr. Ritchey is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has arisen to the third degree.

He is strictly honorable in all his dealings, is enterprising and progressive in his views, and thoroughly loyal to the interests of his country.

NICHOLAS BREEN, who is so capably filling the office of Auditor of Merced county, is a pioneer of 1856, and is entitled to the space that has been accorded him in this history of the county with whose interests he has been so closely identified. His native land is the Emerald Isle, and the date of his birth is February 10, 1833. When he was three years old his parents emigrated to America and settled in Saratoga county, State of New York. His father, a sailor and cooper by trade, educated his children in the public schools of the State of New York, and Nicholas was taught the carriage and wagon maker's trade; he commenced his apprenticeship when eighteen years of age, and the five years following he worked at the trade. The attractions of the far-off West proving irresistible, he set sail from New York April 21, 1856, on board the George Law, and landed in San Francisco June 1, 1856. For two years after coming to the State he worked in Tuolumne county, where he lost all he had accumulated by a destructive fire. He walked to Stockton after this unfortunate event, and after a vain search for work borrowed $10 and went to Snelling, the county seat of Merced county, where he engaged in work at his trade; he also did some carpentering. In 1860 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and was twice re-elected; in 1865 he was elected Supervisor at Snelling and served part of one term, when he resigned the office to accept that of Deputy Sheriff under J. B. Sensbaugh; previous to this, however, he had served in the same capacity under George Turner, and afterward under S. M. Brown and A. J. Meany; and he also ran a livery stable in Snelling for two years.

In 1874 Mr. Breen came to Merced, where he has since resided, and was three re-elected to the office of Justice of the Peace. He was elected to the office which he now holds in November, 1890, and there is not a more thorough, painstaking and zealous officer in Merced county. While not engaged in an official capacity he has always worked at some mechanical calling.

He was united in marriage at Snelling, in 1867, to Mrs. Diana Leak, and of this union eight children have been born: Agnes, wife of Frank Maddox; Alice, wife of Henry Gray; Mabel and Maude, twins; Myrtle, William, Robert and Alma. By her former marriage Mrs. Breen had one daughter, Amelia Leak, who was for five years one of the most favorably known teachers in the

Merced schools. Mr. Breen is a member of the Masonic order, and also belongs to the A. O. U. W. He is a man of unusual public spirit and enterprise, and has a wide circle of friends throughout the country.

JOHN MAHADY, the pioneer landscape gardener of Merced county, is a native of the Emerald Isle, born in 1845. He is the fourth child of Michael and Rose (Whalan) Mahady, and at the tender age of eleven years he came to the United States, and resided with relatives in New York city. He attended the night schools and secured a fair education. When fourteen years of age he entered the army and served three years in the last war,—two years in the army and one in the navy. Was at the capture of Forts Morgan and Gaines, Mobile bay, under Admiral Farragut in 1864. At the age of seventeen years he began the study of gardening, which he has reduced to a science. Mr. Mahady's marriage occurred June 3, 1867, when he was united to Miss Ellen Kane, of Brooklyn, a daughter of James and Nancy (Kelly) Kane, natives of county Donegal, Ireland.

In May, 1869, Mr. Mahady took passage from New York on the steamer Alaska for Aspinwall, and thence overland to Panama, where he boarded the Montana for San Francisco; he arrived in this city June 3, 1869, and resided there until 1874. In this year he came to Merced, where he is known as the pioneer gardener. His services are in demand over a wide territory, and he is considered one of the most talented and capable landscape gardeners in the State. In 1875 he purchased property on P and Thirteenth streets, and there built a residence which is surrounded by the most beautiful gardens; these are artistically designed and perfectly kept, making one of the most attractive spots in the place.

Mr. and Mrs. Mahady are the parents of three children: Mary Frances, John Peter, deceased, and Rose, wife of W. W. Leckler, of Newhall, Los Angelos county.

A. MONOTTI.—The career of this gentleman, since coming to Modesto, is well worth mentioning in this volume. It is but a few years since he commenced business here in an humble way, but by dint of industry, by integrity and business acumen, he has been able to establish himself among the foremost merchants of Stanislaus county.

Aristide Monotti was born in Canton Ticino, Switzerland, in the town of Cavigliono, June 14, 1853, his parents being Antonio and Marianna Monotti. He attended school between the ages of six and fourteen years, and on reaching the age of sixteen years went to Livorno, a village three miles from Florence, Italy, and engaged work as a bank messenger. Here he continued for one year; he then made a short visit to his home, and afterward went to Pollanza, Italy, where he was for six months in a paste factory and flour mill. He again returned to his home, but in 1871 determined to try his fortune in the New World. He left Cavigliono April 7 of

that year, and making his way to Liverpool, England, sailed from there to New York, arriving at the Empire City on the 22d of May. From here he proceeded directly to California, arriving in Stockton on the 8th of June of that year. At Stockton he engaged in work for his uncle, Peter Monotti, as a gardener, where he continued for three years. After this he engaged in peddling throughout San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties. He afterward entered the store of P. Musto, in Stockton, as a clerk, where he remained for one year. After this he engaged in the general produce business on the levee in Stockton for a little less than two years, then selling out and coming to Modesto, where on the 4th of February, 1880, he began in the fruit and produce business in a small way. This was on Tenth street, between H and I. His business increased until about a year later he took an adjoining store-room, and began to branch out a little. It was in a modest way, however, as he started in the grocery business with only 100 pounds of coffee and half a barrel of sugar, but by careful attention to business his trade increased until his stock grew to very creditable proportions. In 1891 his trade had assumed such a volume that he sought the most eligible site in the city, buying for that purpose, from J. Detelbaugh, the brick building adjoining the postoffice, on I street, between Ninth and Tenth streets, which he now occupies. To this he removed on the 7th of July, 1891, and has a splendidly arranged store, with a complete line of staple and fancy groceries, and also a cellar and store-room which are well stocked with reserve goods. Mr. Monotti owns other property,—a building on Tenth street, between H and I streets, and a piece of fine residence property, located a mile from town on the Oakdale road, where he makes his home. This last property he bought in December, 1889, and at first comprised one-half acre, but he has since added to it until it now includes two acres, on which he has built a handsome residence. This place he has since very much improved, having now 400 orange trees set out, which show good progress.

Mr. Monotti was married in Stockton, June 15, 1879, to Miss Margarita Brune, who was born in Stockton. Their two children are now deceased, viz.: George Washington, who was born on the natal day of our first President, and who died in Stockton, aged eight months; and Julia, who was born in Modesto, and died at the age of eighteen months.

DR. WILLIAM ROBINSON was born in Athens county, Ohio, September 12, 1828, a son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Hamilton) Robinson; the father died at Zanesville, Ohio, in 1833. At the age of fourteen years Dr. Robinson assumed the responsibility of providing for himself, and until he was sixteen years old worked for $4 a month. In December, 1844, he went to Des Moines, Iowa, and there took up a Government claim, on which he built a cabin. In a short time he went to Schuyler county, Illinois, and there engaged in the trade of

broom-making. In 1847 he enlisted in the service of the Government in the war against Mexico, being a momber of Company C, commanded by Captain N. C. Cunningham. He was honorably discharged July 7, 1848, and Septemher 1 of the same year, he went to Independence, Missouri, whcre he was in the employ of the railroad company. He then returned to Schuyler county, Illinois, and worked at the cooper's trade nntil 1850. In that year he was married to Susanna Woodruff, and they removed to Henderson county, Illinois, where he devoted his energies to agriculture nntil 1854. His next abiding place was Oskaloosa, Iowa, and there he farmed and worked at the cooper's trade until 1863. Then came a call for additional troops to defend the old flag, and he volunteered in Captain Sherry's Third Iowa Cavalry; he was in the Qnartermaster's department at Davenport for nine months, when he was discharged on account of the death of his wife. He worked at the carpenter's trade for a while, and in September, 1869, he was married a second time, this nnion being to Miss Melissa Yunker. They then removed to Missonri, where he farmed from 1869 to 1874. Then followed the journey to California, whore he owns one of the finest and most productive farms in Merced county; the land is in a high state of cultivation, and is woll improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Rohinson are the parents of the following named children: William H.; Joshua A.; Annie, wife of Joseph Brady, of Kansas City; Addie, wife of Peter S. Skelly; James; Nellie, wife of Joseph Harrigan, of San Francisco; Bennie, Frank, Flora B. and Sheldon, who died at the age of twenty years.

The Doctor's career has heen marked with many changes, and he has experienced many different phases of life, hut the attractions of the Golden State have beeu sufficient to hold him, and he is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of his county.

EDWIN Z. BARNETT, photographer, Modesto, California.—The studio of this gentleman is one of the attractive features of Modesto, and is a most delightful place to while away an hour, or, if one has leisure, an entire afternoon. In it are displayed views of picturesque and noted places, portraits of prominent men and women, and pictnres of many of the citizens of Stanislaus and surrounding counties. The gallery was established several years ago, and Mr. Barnett was an operator in it before he became its proprietor. He is a first-class artist, and his work will bear favorable comparison with that of any artist in the State. Although he has been in bnsiness here only a few yoars, he has bnilt up a good trade that is fast extending to adjoining eonnties.

Mr. Barnett is a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, horn April 8, 1852. There he was reared and educated and learned his trade. His parents, Justns and Eunice (Harriman) Barnett, were natives of Vermont and were descended from early settlers of that State. The mother died in 1875, and the father in 1877. Both came from long-lived and prolific races. To them were born

thirteen children, of whom Edwin Z. is the yonngest. He came to California in 1886, and first located at Oakland. A few months later he moved to Modosto, where ho has since been engaged in the above mentioned business.

He was married near Des Moines, Iowa, February 28, 1876, to Miss Dora Johnson, a native of that State. Mrs. Barnett had been engaged in teaching school some years prior to her marriage. She is a lady of culture and refinement, and presides over her home with becoming grace and dignity. They have four children: Charles O., Ella, Edwin R. and Levi E.

Mr. Barnett is Republican in principlo, but takos little interest in politics. He is gifted with mnsical talent; is a teacher of vocal music, and leader of the Methodist Episcopal choir.

T. M. HUDELSON, a prominent farmer residing eight miles east of Waterford, California, is a nativo of Stanislaus county, born December 4, 1860. His father, James C. Hudelson, is a native of Kentucky, of Scotch-Irish extraction, the Hudelson family having been among the early and influential settlers of the Blue Grass State. James C. Hudelson is a California pioneer of 1850, having crossed the plains with tbe westward tide of emigration in that year. He located on Bear river, El Dorado county, where he followed mining one year. At the expiration of that time he returnod to the States, and in 1853 he again crossed the plains to California, his wife and family of three children accompanying him. His wife died two years after their arrival in the State, and he married the second time. The snbject of this sketch is the second in order of birth in the family of six children by the last union. He was reared to manhood and educated in Stanislaus county, and has been a resident and practical farmer of that county ever since, with the exception of two years spent in Douglas county, Oregon, where he also followed farming. He is now located on reuted property, where he and his partner, G. W. Nelson, farm 1,300 acres of land, all of which is under cultivation and devoted to the production of grain. He makes a specialty of stock-raising and has somo fine thoroughbred animals.

Mr. Hudelson was joined in marriage at Oakdale, July 30, 1891, with Miss Julia Buthenuth, a native of California.

Politically, Mr. Hudelson is allied with the progressive wing of the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in local politics. Socially, he is much of a gentleman, and is a worthy and conscientions citizen, highly respected by the entire community in which he resides.

T. F. ORDWAY is one among the few early pioneers of California who are still living. Here and there, scattered over the mountains and in the valleys of the Golden State, do we find the '49ers, but most of them have passed away and each year their ranks are becoming thinner.

Mr. Ordway is a native of the Empire State, born in Franklin county, July 25, 1834. His parents were Jonathan and Sarah (Green) Ordway, natives of Vermont and early settlers of Franklin county, New York, the ancestry of each being English. The subject of our sketch is the youngest in a family of eight children. He attended school in his native State, and was reared to farm life. He came to California, via Panama, in 1849, and for two years followed mining in Tuolumne county, meeting with fair success. In the fall of 1850 he visited Australia, and was there very successful in mining operations. He then went to South America, returning to California in 1853. Here he again engaged in mining, and opened a claim known as Gold Spring Gulch, in Tuolumne county. This claim he worked very successfully for a number of years. Removing to Stanislaus county, he purchased 200 acres of land near Oakdale, and operated the same for twelve years. At the expiration of that time he sold out and located some five miles east of Oakdale, where he purchased 500 acres of choice farming land, all being under cultivation, utilized as a grain and stock farm.

Mr. Ordway was married in Tuolumne county, California, to Miss Elizabeth Kennedy, a native of Pennsylvania. They have seven children, viz.: Walter, Clara, Ernest, William, Fannie, Frank and Vitie.

He is an earnest and efficient worker in the temperance cause, and affiliates with the Prohibition party. He and his family are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he being one of the church Trustees. For seven years he has been a member of the Board of School Trustees of Robinson School District. Mr. Ordway is one of Stanislaus county's representative citizens, and is honored and respected by the entire community.

JAMES BERRY, a prominent and prosperous farmer, residing two miles northwest of Modesto, is one of the representative citizens of Stanislaus county. He was born in Devonshire, England, October 20, 1832, and is the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Quance) Berry. They had seven children, the subject of this sketch being the second in order of birth. His father, Captain Thomas Berry, followed the sea all his life, as did also his sons, except our subject. The Quances were also toilers of the sea.

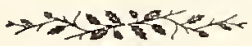
James Berry left his native country when a lad twelve years of age. His voyage from London to New York was in the ship Margaret Evans; thence he went to New Orleans, Louisiana. In all, Mr. Berry followed the sea ten years, and during that period visited the four quarters of the globe. He landed in San Francisco on July 7, 1850, and followed the emigration to the mines. He first located at Cold Springs, El Dorado county. He followed mining for three years, but, not being successful at that occupation, he went to Sonoma county and engaged in farming. He remained there six years, at the expiration of which time he lost his land through an imperfect title. In 1860, he again tried mining, at Virginia City, Nevada, where he remained

until 1861. During this period he was located on one of the Choba and De Soto mines at Star city. In 1869, he permanently located in Stanislaus county. His farm consists of 320 acres, all of which is cultivated to grain-growing. In addition to his farm property, Mr. Berry owns city business property in Modesto.

He was married in Sonoma county, January 6, 1863, to Miss Susana Feese, a native of Cass county, Michigan. She was a daughter of Joseph Feese, a pioneer who crossed the plains to California in 1851. The family first started for Oregon, and consumed two years on the road before reaching California. They wintered in Salt Lake City, Mr. Feese having worked on the Mormon temple as a mechanic. The following spring the family had made all preparation to start for California, having changed their destination from Oregon to the Golden State. Some delay was caused in consequence of the Mormons killing their stock. This, of course, was done in order that the emigrants might be induced to remain and become proselytes to the Mormon Church. Mrs. Berry relates from memory that on this occasion, when the emigrants were leaving the city of the Saints, the first day out it was learned that two young ladies were found boxed up as merchandise, and had been transferred to the wagons as such, in order to avoid becoming a prey to the Mormon form of marriage. By this method they were better able to get out of the city unmolested. The Feese family landed in Yreka, Siskiyou county, with a capital of twenty-five cents, there being at that time four children. Mr. Feese worked for some time as a laborer, and later located at Diamond Spring, and soon after built and carried on hotel business, two and a half miles from that point. He was also engaged in general merchandising at the same time. Some four years later the family removed to Sonoma county, near Healdsburg, where they purchased land and engaged in farming. Mr. Feese died in 1863, and his wife eleven years later, in 1874, in the city of Los Angeles.

During Mr. Berry's mining operations in Nevada, he shipped silver ore to Swansea, in Wales, for reduction, and had good returns. He was naturalized while a resident of Sonoma county, in 1862.

He takes an active interest in local politics, being allied with the Democratic party. He has been connected with school matters some years, as a member of the Board of Trustees of Paradise School District. Socially he affiliates with the I. O. O. F., being a member of the encampment at Modesto.



JAMES ALEXANDER, one of the substantial citizens of Stanislaus county, was born near Baltimore, Maryland, October 16, 1841. His parents have both died in that State. Our subject was reared there, and came from there to California by way of the Isthmus. He located in San Joaquin county, and was engaged in dairying near Stockton until 1882, when he moved to Stanislaus county, locating about seven miles northwest of Modesto, along the Stan-

islaus river, where the family now resides. Mr. Alexander was married in this county, June 14, 1878, to Miss Belle Feagin, a native of California, born in San Joaquin county. Her parents, Pleasant R. and Elizabeth (Jones) Feagin, were born, reared and married in North Carolina, removing thence to Missouri, and later, in 1852, crossing the plains to California. The ravages of the cholera during that year were most severe, by which they lost two daughters, and the father nearly succumbing. They located in San Joaquin county, where they resided until 1858, when they came Stanislaus county. Here the father died November 1, 1867, and the mother March 20, 1882. They had nine children, all girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have four children, viz.: Marietta, James Henry, Edward Feagin and Frank Irvine.

Politically, Mr. Alexander is a standard Republican, although not a politician. The Alexander ranch comprises 760 acres, which is principally devoted to grain-growing.

WILLIAM A. COVERT, has long been a resident of Stanislaus county, and as a citizen is thoroughly identified with its interests. He was born in Bartholomew county, Indiana, May 19, 1837, his parents being John Bates and Hester N. (Warner) Covert. His father was also born in Indiana, his parents having been natives of New York and Pennsylvania. In 1841, his father removed with his family to the vicinity of Ozark, Franklin county, Arkansas, and in 1855 they crossed the plains to California, proceeding via the Arkansas river route to Pike's Peak, thence to Salt Lake, and from there by the Carson river route to California. They located at Mokelumne Hill for about two months, after which they removed to a ranch about eight miles east of Stockton, in San Joaquin county. Here they resided about eight years, when, in 1863, they came to Stanislaus, locating where our subject now resides. The father started a store in Stanislaus county in 1866, where he transacted a large amount of business for quite a length of time. The country in that vicinity had begun to settle up rapidly, goods could be landed by steamer at Tuolumne city, and everybody went there for supplies, and the capacity of the store was taxed to its utmost for many months. He remained in business there for more than five years, when he removed to Modesto, where he also engaged in mercantile trade, and later was a merchant at Crane Valley, on a fork of the San Joaquin river. he next went to Tulare county, where he resided until his death in August, 1889, his wife having died in 1862. They had eight children, of whom W. A. Covert our subject, and his brother John Shelby, twins, were the second and third in order of birth. After the family settled in Stanislaus county, our subject remained at the homestead for about seven years, then removed to the west side of San Joaquin river, beyond Grayson, where he ranched for three years. He next went to Tulare county, and there farmed and raised stock for ten years on his

ranch in the fertile Mussel Slough district, his ranch being about eight miles from the present prosperous city of Hanford. He still has 560 acres of this fine farming land After ten years' residence on his place there, he returned to Stanislaus county, and has since lived at his present location. Here he has 220 acres of good farming land.

Mr. Covert was married in San Joaquin county, November 13, 1863. to Miss Fannie Doherty, a native of Ireland. They have three children, Ida Virginia John George, and Robert Franklin.

Mr. Covert met with the first accident of his life in December, 1891, which was an unfortunate one. From the premature discharge of a gun while hunting, he lost his right hand.

He is politically a Democrat, and while in no sense a politician, he takes an active interest in public affairs as a citizen. He is well and favorably known throughout the county for his sterling traits of character. He gives his personal attention to the farming of his home ranch, and also of his place in Tulare county.

THOMAS WALLACE.—The above named gentleman is a member of the Board of City Trustees of Modesto, California, and has been identified with the growth and prosperity of Stanislaus county for many years.

Mr. Wallace is a pioneer of 1850, having crossed the plains to the Golden State in that year and located in Placer county, where, for a few months, he followed the popular employment of mining. Next he turned his attention to farming near San José, in Santa Clara county, and remained there two years. He then went to the mountains of Tuolumne county and engaged in teaming, and followed that employment there for seven years. His next move was to Modesto, where he has since resided. Here for nineteen years he has been connected with the livery business.

Mr. Wallace was born in Ohio, March 11, 1830. He is the eldest in a family of twelve children, and when he was two years of age removed with his parents to Illinois, where he was reared on a farm and received his education. His parents, William and Ellen (McCloland) Wallace, were natives of Ohio, the former of Scotch extraction and the latter of Irish. The father died in 1856; the mother survived him many years, her death occurring in 1890. Both father and mother were descended from long-lived and prolific ancestors.

In June, 1866, Mr. Wallace was joined in marriage with Miss Alice McCleland, a native of Pennsylvania. They have four children living and four deceased. The former are William F., Bell, George and Eva. The latter are Ella, who died in 1889; and Emma, Clarence and Hazel, in 1890.

Mr. Wallace is a stanch Democrat, active in political matters. He was elected to his present position in 1886. With fraternal circles he is also prominently identified. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., having taken the Encampment degree, and of the A. O. U. W., and the K. of H., all of Mo-

desto. Mr. Wallaco is a gentleman progres sivo and enterprising. He is always among the first to encourage publie improvements, and supports all enterprises that have for their objeet the building up of eity and county.

AVERILL BROTHERS & HALL.—This well-known firm, of Ceres, Stanislaus eounty, eonducts a large blacksmithing and maehine businoss. The shop was started by Daniol Whitmore about 1874, and the present firm, consisting of Jesse and G. W. Averill and G. B. Hall, bought him out in 1880. This firm is to somo extont engaged in building wagons and plows, but tho bulk of their maehiue work is tho ropairing of all kinds of farm maehinery, ineluding eombined harvesters. They are sometimes mueh rushed, employing at times four or five mon on the work of repairing. The firm is also engaged in farming, having forty acres in grain in 1892, of which ten acres are their own property. They also own five lots in Cores. They are also considorably interested in chickens, particularly Light Brahmas, Partridge and Buff Cochins, Plymouth Rocks, White Plymouth Rocks and Brown Leghorns. They also own and operato the town water-works, a portion of the plant eonsisting of a windmill and pump, a 25,000-gallon tank, and 1,400 feet of piping.

G. W. Averill, of this firm, was born at Cooper, Washington county, Maine, on October 30, 1844. His parents were G. W. and Hannah W. (Hanscom) Averill. His father was born at Maehias, Maine, being deseended from an old family of that State, his grandparents having been pioneers of that locality. His father was a lumberman in early life, but later was a shoemaker. He died in January, 1869. His mother was also born in Maine, her grandmother having carriod powder from Jonesborough to Maehias for the first naval battlo of tho Revolution.

Mr. G. W. Averill eame to California in 1869, where his brother Jesse had already preceded him. He spent two years at farm work in San Joaquin eounty, when he went to work at the wheelwright trade in Atlanta in the same eounty. In 1880 he eamo to Stanislaus eounty, buying out the shop at Ceres.

Jesse Averill was born at the samo place as his brother, in Maine, on tho 18th of September, 1846. In 1868 he eame to California, leaving New York for the Isthmus on the steamor Aspinwall, whieh was then making her seeond trip. At Panama he transferred to the steamer Colorado, landing at San Francisco on Oetober 2, 1868. He farmed in San Joaquin eounty until 1872, when he commeneed blacksmithing at Atlanta, aequiring then his first knowledge of that business.

Both brothers are members of Ceres Lodge, and also belong to the Farmers' Allianee. Both are ardent supporters of tomperanee, being politieally Prohibitionists.

G. B. Hall, of this firm, was born in Penobscot eounty, Maine, on September 25, 1838. His parents, Oliver and Sallie (Oliver) Hall, wore natives of Maine, his father being

a stone-cutter by trade. Both are now deceased. Thoy had eight children, of whom our subjoct was the fifth in order of birth. In boyhood Mr. Hall worked for a lumber mill. In 1861 he came to California via the Isthmus, traversing the Atlantic on the steamer Northern Light, and continuing his voyago from Panama to the coast on the steamer Golden Gatc. Arrived in California, he went to Tnolumne county, where he was in the lumber trade in the lumber region for sevon years. Later he removed to San Joaquin county, taking a ranch on the French Camp road, engaging in ranching until 1880 then removing to Ceres.

In April, 1870, he was married, in San Joaquin county, to Miss Susan Averill, also a native of Maine. Thoy have no children.

Mr. Hall is a Prohibitionist. He belongs to the Farmers' Alliance and is a member of Ceres Lodge.

This firm is composed of three as energetic, progressive men as any community would care to possess. Their efficient work and accommodating manners have gained for them a large trade, while their upright characters have gained the respect of their follow-citizens.

W. S. MANN, of Stanislaus county, is a native of Indiana, having been born near Danvillo, Hendricks county, of that State, on the 28th of Octoher, 1845. His parents were Frederick and Elizabeth (Moore) Mann, both of whom were born in North Carolina, but who went to Indiana when young, ahout the year 1832, in which State they were married. His mother died in Hendricks county, Indiana, and his father died in Morgan county, of tho same State, in 1891. Onr subject was reared to manhood in the county of his birth, removing in 1866 to Coffec county, Kansas, Kansas then being a new country, where he resided until 1874. In that year he came to California, finally locating in Stanislaus county, with which ho has been identified for many years. He has resided on tho Rogers ranch since 1888, which is located noar tho old town site of Paradise, on the Tnolumne river. Hore he farms 1,100 acres of land, principally devoted to wheat and barley culture.

He was marriod in Kansas, in July, 1867, to Miss Rosa Belle Shoemakor, a native of Iowa. They have three children,—Esther, Ida and Lotta.

Mr. Mann is an intelligent, progressivc citizen, and takes an activc interost in public affairs. He affiliates with the Republican party.

JOHN D. McCARTHY was born in Ireland, January 6, 1836, and is the youngest of fivo children. In 1854 he emigrated to the United States and settlod in Boston, whore he worked in a restaurant for ten years. Then he ombarked for San Francisco, via Panama, where he landed on April 29 of that year. Three months afterward he went to the mines in Idaho, and from there he went on a prospecting expedition to Montana, returning to California in

1866 and locating at Folsom, where he remained for four years. In 1869 he moved to Merced county and took up a claim and homestead near Los Baños, where he has surrounded himself with many comforts. He may properly be styled the "pioneer horticulturist of the West Side," and has practically demonstrated that oranges and raisin grapes may be advantageously grown in this locality. He was married in 1862, to Catharine McCarthy, and has one son, John D.

THOMAS CONLIN.—Among the representative and progressive business men of Columbia, Tuolumne county, California, is the gentleman with whose name we head this sketch.

Mr. Conlin is a native of Tuolumne county, and dates his birth at Shaw's Flat, May 14 1859. He is the second in the family of eleven children born to John and Julia Conlin, both of whom were natives of Ireland. John Conlin came to California and located in Tuolumne county in 1853, and was actively engaged in mining here until 1876, when he lost his life by accident.

The subject of our sketch was reared and educated in his native county, and when a young man became engaged in mining. He still owns mining property which is being operated, although he does not follow that business personally. In 1881 he established himself at Columbia. In addition to managing the Western Union telegraph office and having charge of the express business of Wells, Fargo & Co., he also, in the same building, carries a stock of stationery, tobacco and all goods which may be found in a general variety store. He has had charge of the telegraph and express business since 1884.

Mr. Conlin's mother, whose maiden name was also Conlin, survived her husband only one year, dying in 1877. The family, on both paternal and maternal sides, were a long-lived and prolific race. Thomas Conlin is unmarried, and is a member of no secret organizations. Politically, he is a stanch Democrat. In business matters he is prompt and exacting, and has gained for himself a reputation in the community as an honorable and upright citizen.

C. NELSON, proprietor of the Modesto Soda Works, Modesto, California, was born in Denmark, November 24, 1862. His parents, Hans J. and Else B. (Brorsen) Nelson, are natives of Denmark and still reside there. In their family of eight children the subject of our sketch was the fourth-born. He grew up in his native land, receiving his education there, and until 1881 was engaged in farming. That year he emigrated to America. He first located in San Francisco, where, in company with his brother, N. J. Nelson, he engaged in the milk business. This he continued until 1889, when he sold his interest to his brother and removed to Modesto. Here he formed a partnership with Christian Brown, in the manufacture of soda. Early in 1891 he became, by purchase, sole proprietor of the establishment, and has since conducted it alone, doing a thriving

and constantly increasing business. He runs a delivery wagon regularly and supplies not only the city of Modesto, but largely the surrounding country with a number of refreshing drinks, such as soda, sarsaparilla, ginger ale, creamed soda, orango cidor, etc., etc.

Mr. Nelson was married at San Francisco April 23, 1889, to Miss Laura Gardemeyer, a native of Germany. Thoy have one child, George W., born July 4, 1891.

Mr. Nelson affiliates with the Republican party. He was naturalized at San Francisco in 1888. Socially, he is connected with Fidelity Lodge, No. 222, I. O. O. F., San Francisco, and with a Danish society of San Francisco.

F. C. DAVIS, a prominent and progressive farmer, located six miles northwest of Modesto, is a native of Franklin county, Arkansas, born January 4, 1838. His parents, now deceased, were Noah and Kidian (Scott) Davis, the former a native of North Carolina, the latter of Illinois. The Davises were among the early settlers and influential families of North Carolina.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native State, but at the age of seventeen came to California and followed stock-raising until 1862,—first locating on Rock Creek, Stanislaus county, where he remained until 1858, thence removing to Calaveras county, near Copperopolis. He had been extensively connected with the cattle business for many years, and had also had some experience in copper mining. He afterward went to San Joaquin county, where he remained one year, and permanently located in Stanislaus county in 1864, where his farm consists of 800 acres, devoted to grain growing and stock-raising.

He was married, in San Joaquin county, January 21, 1864, to Miss Rosell Covert, of Arkansas, daughter of J. B. Covert, a native of Indiana, and Hester A. (Warner) Covert, who removed to Arkansas in 1841, locating near Ozark, Franklin County. They came to California in 1855 and spent a few months in Calaveras county, thence removing to San Joaquin county. In 1863 the family removed to Stanislaus county, Mr. Covert engaging in mercantile pursuits at Tuolumne City in 1866, later following the same pursuits at Modesto and Crane valley, but at the time of his death was a resident of Tulare county. He died in August, 1889, his wife having died in 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have had ten children, viz.: John Noah; Ora Adalino, now the wife of W. H. Hatton, of Modesto; H. Madison, Mary R., Franklin S., Porter B., Hatton G., Frankie L., Edward D. and Graco I.

Socially Mr. Davis is associated with blue lodge, No. 206, F. & A. M., also Modesto Chapter.

JAMES MONOHAN, a prosperous farmer, residing near Waterford, California, was born in county Wexford, Irelaud, in 1832, his parents being Patrick and Mary (Smith) Monohan, both of whom are deceased. In a family of nine children

our subject is the youngest. He was reared in his native country, and followed farming until 1854, at which time he bade farewell to friends and the Emerald Isle, and came to America. He remained some eight months in the State of New York with his brother Patrick, when they both came by way of Panama to California. From San Francisco they proceeded to Tuolumne county and engaged in mining near Sonora. They subsequently came to Stanislaus county, and some time later Patrick Monohan went to San Francisco for medical treatment and there died. This, however, is only supposition, as Mr. Monohan has no positive proof of the death of his brother, neither has he had any tidings of his being among the living.

James Monohan purchased and still owns 170 acres of beautiful and valuable farming land located on the right bank of the Tuolumne river, two miles west of Waterford, all of which is devoted to the production of grain. He is a stanch Democrat, and has always taken an active part in local politics.

OWEN HUGHES, a pioneer of Los Baños, was born in Ireland, November 2, 1838. His parents were Michael and Sarah (Handlon) Hughes. He early learned the miller's trade, and when yet young, in 1852, emigrated to the United States. He settled in Massachusetts, where he farmed and worked in the factories. In 1860, eight years later, he moved to Rhode Island, in which State he married, on June 15, 1861, Miss Mary Neilson. In the following year he moved to Connecticut, and a year later came to California via Panama. Here, in Solano county, he farmed for a few years, and later, on March 27, 1869, came to Merced county taking up a claim of 160 acres, and a homestead of the same size, to which he has since added some 600 acres. Most of this land is devoted to wheat, on which an average of twelve to fifteen sacks of grain is produced annually. One hundred and sixty acres are under the canal, which is well set with alfalfa, from which four crops annually are cut. He also owns some 75 head of cattle, 25 mules and horses and 60 to 150 hogs.

Mr. Hughes was one of the first settlers here, and has seen the thriving town of Los Baños spring up almost in his door-yard, and witnessed the vast improvements which have taken place all over the West Side. He is a man of great public spirit, and is ever ready to support any laudable enterprise. He was Roadmaster for nine years, and built the first roads on the west side of the river.

Of five children, four are yet living: Annie, wife of George Black; Sarah, wife of Angelo Genolly: Agnes and Albert Emmett; Mary died some time since.

D. A. KERR.—Among Stanislaus county's prominent and prosperous farmers is the above named gentleman. Mr. Kerr was born in Pike county, Missouri, June 4, 1841, the twelfth of a family of thirteen children, and of a prolific and long-lived race. His parents were James and Nancy

(Thornton) Kerr, both Virginians by birth and both pioneers of Missouri. The former died in 1888, and the latter in 1843. The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in Missouri, and crossed the plains via the old emigrant route in 1865, locating in Stanislaus county and engaging in practical farming, having been reared to that occupation. In the fall of 1868 he bought a squatter's title to 320 acres, on what was known as the Miller grant. After the Government and the settlers gained the land, he purchased it of the Government. In the autumn of 1878 he sold it, and during the next fall he purchased 320 acres. In the spring of 1881 he bought 160 acres more. He sold out in the fall of 1891 and bought 480 acres more five and one-half miles west of Modesto, which land he has cultivated to grain.

In politics Mr. Kerr is a Democrat, but in local affairs he divides the tickets.

ROBERT T. HUDELSON, one of the enterprising and substantial young men of Stanislaus county, was born in this county on February 1, 1862, his parents being William F. and Susan V. (Herndon) Hudelson. His father is a native of Missouri, having been reared in Barton county of that State. He is now a prominent merchant of Modesto, this county. The wife and mother was born in Kentucky, but was reared in Missouri. In 1851 the family came to California across the plains. For a time the father mined in Tuolumne county, about Chinese Camp and Sonora, from where he moved to Stanislaus county, locating about eight miles from Modesto. Here he resided until 1885, when he removed with his family to the city of Modesto, where he now lives. They had twelve children, all but one still surviving, of whom our subject, Robert T. Hudelson, is the sixth in order of age.

Our subject was educated in the schools of this county and at the Stockton Business College. In 1883, at the age of twenty-one years, he rented a portion of Hiram Hughson's ranch, which he farmed for three years. His parents then moving to Modesto, he took the home ranch, which he farmed until the fall of 1889. Since then he has been on the old McMullen ranch, where he has 1,600 acres in grain, wheat and barley.

He was married in Stanislaus county on the 20th of April, 1887, to Miss Belle Hughson, a native of San Joaquin county, and daughter of Hiram Hughson, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. They have two children: Myrtle E. and Ruby Lee.

Mr. Hudelson is a Democrat in his political associations, and, having been born in the county, has a large circle of warm personal friends.

JACOB ANGEL AYALA, the popular and obliging proprietor of "Jako's" Saloon, on Main street, Angel's, is a native of Tuolumne county, California. His parents were Emilo and Cayatana (Flores) Ayala, the former a native of Panama, and the latter of Mexico. They had four chil-

dren, of whom Jacob is the third. He was educated in the public schools of Amador county. In 1871 he began riding race-horses for Pony Jones and Jim Pratt, and in 1876 took four race-horses to South America. After his return he rode for J. J. Eckles, of Plymouth, Amador county; then for Morris Bros., of the same place, and later for George Houston, of Sacramento. His next work was to attend bar for M. S. Brace, of Sacramento. In 1888 Mr. Ayala came to Angel's and opened a saloon and billiard hall, and here he has since resided.

He was married in July, 1888, to Miss Kittie Teague, a native of El Dorado county, and a daughter of one of the early pioneers of California.

Socially Mr. Ayala is connected with the Odd Fellows and the Native Sons of the Golden West.

WOODSON GARRARD, superintendent of the Gold Cliff quartz mine, Angel's, California, is a native of Clay county, Kentucky, the date of his birth being July 1, 1845. His father, William Garrard, was an early and successful miner in California, and is now a prominent citizen of Seattle, Washington.

The subject of this sketch came to California in 1854. In 1861 he made his first business venture in the copper mines of Calaveras county. In 1866 he went to Virginia City, Nevada, and mined silver till 1885, when he was employed in the United States Mint at Carson City, and was there during Cleveland's administration. He then came to Angel's and took charge of the Gold Cliff mines. This plant consists of a twenty-stamp mill, and employs an average of twenty men. It is situated on the mother lode, and is a valuable property. Mr. Garrard and his partner, W. E. Shepman, who is now looking after their mines in Siskiyou county, are two practical mining men, having mining interests in various parts of the State.

He was married in 1875 to Miss Jennie Doherty. They have three children, namely: Clay, a student in Napa College, Mabel and James.

JOHN B. MEYERS, proprietor of the Miners' Exchange, on Main street, Angel's, California, was born in Sweden in 1852. His father, Johnson Meyers, was a ship carpenter by trade.

In 1859 John B. came to California with his uncle, Harry Meyers, who had been for several years a successful miner and a butcher at Angel's. He staid in San Francisco for three months with the proprietor of the Occidental Hotel, and attended school. He then came to Angel's, and went to school and did chores for his uncle. At the age of fourteen he began mining, and continued at it till four years ago, when he met with an accident which disabled him from active work. He then opened the Miners' Exchange saloon. From 1878 to 1885 he served as Constable of Angel's township, and for three years was foreman of the Stickle quartz mine.

In 1873 Mr. Meyers married Miss Amelia Gerlach, a native of Pennsylvania, by whom he has three children,—John R., William O. and Cora Bell.

He owns some valuable property in Angel's, having built his neat residence here in 1873. He also owns the Excelsior quartz mine, located between Gold Cliff and Utica mines.

In his social relations Mr. Meyers affiliates with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

DAVID MORTIMER WOOD is a venerable pioneer and successful farmer in the Cottonwood district of Merced county. He was born in La Salle county, Illinois, in 1849, and in 1855 crossed the plains to California with his father, David Wood. His father first crossed the plains in 1849, and was engaged in mining for a couple of years, when he visited his family in 1851. A year later, in 1852, his father again came to California, remaining a couple of years, again visiting his home, from which place he finally moved with his family to California in 1855. He was a successful and well known cattle and sheep raiser, and owned the famous Wood Fields, a ranch of 7,000 acres, which he subsequently sold to Millex & Lux. He died in Gilroy, in 1890, aged seventy-three years.

The subject of this sketch started out for himself in 1870, and now owns a fine farm of 120 acres, all under the canal, and within twelve miles of Los Baños. This farm is devoted to stock-raising, fruit and vines, he having practically demonstrated that fruit can be raised here as well as in Southern California.

He was married in 1880, to Susan H. Jameson, and their four children are: Myrtle, Ida, Susie and "Willie," all girls.

NORTHWOOD BARROW, Superintendent of the Calaveras County Hospital, San Andreas, California, is a native of Missouri, born in 1832, son of Alfred and Catharine (McGeary) Barrow. His great-grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was of Welsh descent. The subject of our sketch was the second in a family of eight children. When he was a boy his father moved to Ohio, and later to Missouri, where the children were reared.

At the age of twenty years Mr. Barrow left home to do for himself. He first worked in a chair factory at Mount Carmel, Ohio, and two years later went to work on a farm. When the war broke out he entered Company E, Sixteenth Kentucky Infantry, and served his country faithfully for three years and four months. He was in several celebrated battles, and served as hospital steward at Lonisa, Kentucky. He was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, March 8, 1865.

In 1870 Mr. Barrow came to California from Missouri, where he had farmed since the war. He located in Nevada county and engaged in mining and logging for a time, and was watchman in a mine. In 1872 he went to Placer county, and mined and teamed

at Iowa Hill. In 1874 he came to Sheep Ranch, Calaveras county, and went to work in the mine. A year later he met with an accident which disabled him from active work. He was then appointed superintendent of the County Hospital, and has since served in this capacity. Under his efficient management the institution is in a flourishing condition, and his superior ability for the work he has in charge is recognized by all.

Mr. Barrow was married on the 10th of January, 1887, to Mrs. Nancy Blyth, a native of Tennessee. She is one-eighth Cherokee. By her former husband, J. G. Leonard, she has two children, namely: Laura, wife of Frank Brawley, and Mary, wife of James Stephens.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CAMERON.—The above named gentleman has been prominently identified with the Stanislaus County Hospital since January 15, 1888, having been appointed to the position of Hospital Steward by the Board of Supervisors in that year. He has filled that important position with due credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the public. Prior to this Mr. Cameron had filled the office of County Assessor for a period of four years. He was elected to this office in 1882, and in this capacity his services were also duly recognized by the public.

Mr. Cameron is a native of Tennessee, and dates his birth in White county, on May 5, 1836. He received his education in his native State, and was reared to the trade of tanner and currier, that being his father's trade, which the son carried on for many years. Mr. Cameron was the eighth in a family of fourteen children. His parents were Elisha and Mary A. (Hudson) Cameron, the former being a native of Tennessee, and the latter of South Carolina. The Camerons were among the influential families and early settlers of the State. William Cameron, grandfather of our subject, was a patriot soldier and served in the war of 1812, his ancestors being of Scotch extraction. The Hudsons were of English descent, and of the Colonial settlers of South Carolina. James and John Hudson, maternal uncles of our subject, also served with distinction through the war of 1812. Elisha Cameron died in 1878, and his wife, Mary A. (Hudson) Cameron, July 12, 1881. The subject of this sketch followed his trade in White county, Tennessee, until the breaking out of the war, when he enlisted as a member of the Twenty-fifth Regiment of Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, and participated in numerous engagements prior to the battle of Chickamauga, on September 19, 1863, where he received a wound which later caused the amputation of his left fore-arm. Following this he returned to the haunts of his boyhood, and in the spring of 1864 engaged in farming, following that occupation until he came to California, October 30, 1869, when he located eleven miles west of Modesto and followed farming until elected County Assessor, as above stated, when he moved into the county seat, where he and his family have since resided. Mr. Cameron still owns farming property located

in San Luis Obispo county, near Creston, consisting of 200 acres. This property is not farmed by Mr. Cameron, however, being rented out.

He was married in White county, Tennessee, January 6, 1867, to Miss Mary Ann Stone, who was also a native of Tennessee, as was also her father, Iredell Stone, whose parents were from Kentucky and settled in Tennessee in the early history of that State. Iredell Stone died June 28, 1880, at the age of seventy-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Cameron are the parents of six children, four of whom are living, their names being Jennie F., Emma, Florilla and Sallie F. They lost two sons, who died in infancy. Politically Mr. Cameron has always been a stanch Democrat, and takes an active interest in local politics. Socially he affiliates with Stanislaus Lodge, No. 206, F. & A. M., and has filled one of the official chairs for the past four years. He is also identified with Electa Chapter, No. 72, Eastern Star degree of the order; he was one of its charter members, and officially connected for several years.

He is a worthy and enterprising citizen, and one who has the confidence and respect of the community.

A. W. DRUMMOND, of the firm of A. W. Drummond & Co., general merchants at Los Baños, also Postmaster and Deputy Assessor, is a native son of the Golden West. He was born in Sacramento November 6, 1864. His father, John Q. Drummond, is a well known pioneer of 1850, and a sketch of his life appears elsewhere in this volume. The subject of this sketch attended the district schools in Lee county, Illinois, for five years, returning to California in 1874, and after attending the public school in San Francisco finished his education at the Stockton Business College in 1879. For a time he was purser on the river steamers; later he engaged in the boot and shoe business in San Francisco. He was afterward a clerk in Stockton for three years, after which he came to Los Baños and was manager for Miller & Lux until 1890, when his present partnership was formed. He was appointed Postmaster at Los Baños, November 6, 1889, having been Assistant under Adolph Widman at old Los Baños. He was appointed Deputy Assessor for the West Side in 1890. He is in the insurance business, and represents nine of the best companies. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows, and is politically a Republican.

He was married in 1866, to Miss May Babcock, a native of California.

SAMUEL A. SMITH, a pioneer of Los Baños, was born near Rock Island, Illinois, in 1839, and is a son of Lewis Smith. In 1841 his parents moved to Winnebago county, and in 1856 to Fayette county, Iowa. Here he was engaged in farming until in 1862, when he set out for California across the plains. Arrived in this State, he spent the first year in Yolo county, when he removed to Solano county, and there he re-

mained until 1868, then removed to Merced county, locating where he now resides. He first pre-empted a quarter section in township 10, section R, 10 east, three-quarters of a mile from Los Baños. To his original purchase he has added 160 acres more, all of which are well improved and well stocked. He was one of the first to locate here; only three of the first settlers are at present living in this vicinity.

He was married in 1860, to Miss Nancy Dallarhide, a native of Indiana. Their children are: Oscar E., Alice L., Amanthus E., Jasper E., Lewis G., Frank S. and Charles P. Nettie May, Mabel and Maud, twins, died in infancy.

Socially, Mr. Smith is a member of Lodge No. 193, A. O. U. W. In 1877 he was Justice of the Peace for township No. 5. He has been for many years a trustee of Los Baños District, and to him is due much of the prosperity of the West Side.

JOHN L. IVETT, deceased, was born in England, in 1823, and at the age of eighteen years bade farewell to his native land and crossed the sea to the United States; he located first in Wisconsin, where he was employed on a farm until he had accumulated sufficient means to purchase a tract of land. He bought forty acres, which he cultivated until 1851, and then he turned his face westward with the determination of winning a fortune in the gold-fields of California. He sailed from New Orleans on the ship Hannah, passed through the straits of Magellan, putting into Monrovia for supplies; there the vessel was attached, but after a few weeks was allowed to continue the voyage. After eleven long, weary months they landed in San Francisco. From this city Mr. Ivett, in company with Mr. Francis and son, William Nichols and four Englishmen, came on foot to Mariposa county; there they engaged in mining at Mount Ophir. In 1853, Mr. Ivett and William Penrose came to the Merced river, and bought a squatter's claim to 160 acres of land, for which they paid $300; they built a tent, which was called "Blue Tent," and here, on "Bluff Ranch" Mr. Ivett kept a public house for several years, as it became a stopping-place for travelers. In 1854 he erected a more substantial house near where the tent stood, and for many years was proprietor of a hotel; it was a very profitable business, as he often received $500 a day from travelers for accommodations and for hay and barley sold to teamsters.

In 1856 his partner, Mr. Armstead, died, and he purchased his estate at public auction.

Mr. Ivett was married in 1860, to Miss Mary Elsie Smith, a native of Scotland, and to them were born two children: Elsie and Loftus, both of whom are now deceased. The wife died in 1870, and Mr. Ivett was married a second time in 1877, to Miss Sophie A. Olsen, a daughter of the Golden West. In business he was a most successful man, honorable and upright in all his dealings, and possessing the confidence of the entire community. At the time of his death he owned a ranch of 12,500 acres; 1,200 acres were located near Plainsburg; 4,000 in Mariposa

county, and the homestead at Snelling. Over this vast area roam thousands of sheep and cattle, and on the fertile bottom lands are produced thousands of bushels of wheat and barley; the residence on the homestead at Snelling is beautifully located, overlooking the Merced river valley, the snow-capped peaks of the Sierras visible in the distance. Mr. Ivett was one of Merced county's most capable and successful business men, and no one grudged him the prosperity he enjoyed. He was quiet and and unassuming in manner, having no desire for notoriety. His death occurred November 9, 1890. The handsome estate accumulated by him is ably managed by his widow, Mrs. Sophie A. Ivett.

HORACE GREELEY KELSEY was born in Merced county, California, May 5, 1859, and is a son of Erastus Kelsey, a well-known, influential citizen and pioneer of the county. He was educated in the public schools of Merced county and at the University of California, from which he was graduated in 1881, taking the degrees of Ph. B. After finishing his literary course he began the study of medicine, but at the end of one year decided that the pursuit of agriculture possessed more attractions for him, and so abandoned the profession. He located on the old homestead near Merced Falls, where he has 480 acres of land under cultivation and in pasture.

Mr. Kelsey has demonstrated a fact of great interest and importance to horticulturists, and that is, that the Merced river bottom lands are the home of the fig-tree; he has shown the strength of his conviction by planting 2,400 trees, which are now (1892) three years old. This is an industry of great possibilities, and Mr. Kelsey has done no small service to the State in making the experiments which have proven so successful.

He was married in Oakland in 1882, to Miss Ida T. Weed, who is a native of New Jersey.

HENRY NELSON, proprietor of the Merced Flour Mills, was born in New Brunswick, August 17, 1844. When he was six years old his father, William Nelson, brought him to California, making the journey via Cape Horn. He lived in San Francisco four years and then came to Merced Falls; he received his education in the district schools and at Nicholson's Seminary in Stockton; later he attended the Pacific Business College in San Francisco, from which he was graduated in 1865.

He was then ready to embark in some business enterprise, and came to Merced Falls to look the situation over; he went into the mills which had been established by his father in 1854, and has been closely identified with their fortunes since that time. They have a daily capacity of 100 barrels, and are fitted up with a complete roller system; in 1887 they were remodeled, and the property is now valued at $30,000; the patronage is drawn from Merced, Mariposa, Tuolumne and Stanislaus counties, and is of a most substan-

tial character; the building was burned in 1872, and the woolen mill adjoining did not escape the ravages of the fire; in this business Mr. Nelson and his father also owned a controlling interest. They are both enterprising, public-spirited citizens, and have done more than any other individuals to aid in the development of this part of the county.

In 1890 Mr. Nelson received the nomination for the Assembly at the hands of the Republican party, but was defeated by his opponent, F. H. Gould, Democrat, who received a majority of eighty-two votes. He is one of the oldest members of Willow Lodge, No. 121, I. O. O. F., and he also belongs to Hornitos Lodge, No. 99, A. O. U. W.

He was united in marriage, in 1879, to Miss Lola Antoinette Lawrence, a native of New York. Six children have been born to them: Willie H., Anna Lola, Alma, Inez, Beatrice and Etta.

JOHN ROMANS, a member of the firm of Romans & Paterson, successors to Phelps, Shepard & Cowie, and proprietors of the Sonora Foundry and Machine Shops, is one of the enterprising business men of Sonora. This business was established over a quarter of a century ago, and is now ably conducted by its present proprietors. They are probably as well equipped for turning out mining machinery as any other establishment in central California. The machine shop is supplied with all the modern patterns of lathes and necessary machinery for turning out every class of work required in the mines. The entire works are operated by water power. They usually make use of thirty-six inches, their greatest capacity being fifty inches. The molding floor is 30 x 60 feet in size; has two iron cupolas, two brass furnaces and two core ovens, and turns out heavy castings. The pattern shop is also situated on the same floor. The entire plant covers an area of 150 feet. The firm is doing an extensive and lucrative business throughout Tuolumne and surrounding counties. They run the establishment the year round, and employ on an average eight men.

The especial subject of this sketch, John Romans, is a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, born in February, 1829. His parents were James and Isabel (Lilly) Romans, both natives of Scotland, and now deceased. Mr. Romans is the second in their family of five children. He was apprenticed to the trade of carpenter and joiner. Leaving his native heath, he went to Liverpool, England, where he learned the trade of moulder. After remaining there some three years, he came to San Francisco, in 1850, in the interest of an English company, and remained in their employ about one year. He then repaired to the mines of Calaveras county, where he engaged in mining five years, meeting with fair success. The following two years he engaged in mill-building. In 1858 he came to Sonora and worked at his trade until 1867. On the death of Mr. Phelps he became interested in the firm. Subsequently he bought out Mr. Shepard, and at that time held a two-thirds interest in the establishment.

Mr. Romans was married at Columbia, Tuolumne county, to Miss Maria Bolter, a native of England. They have one daughter, Lilly, now the wife of William Bowman, of Sonora.

Mr. Romans affiliates with the I. O. O. F., Sonora Lodge, No. 10. He has passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodge, and has taken the Encampment degree. He is also a member of the Chosen Friends.

RICHARD INCH, ex-County Auditor and Recorder of Tuolumne county, California.—The gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch is one of Tuolumne county's progressive and influential men.

Mr. Inch is a native of Cornwall, England, and dates his birth February 24, 1854. He was reared and received his schooling in his native country. He is the fifth in the family of six children born to his parents, Richard H. and Elizabeth (Randall) Inch. In 1867 he landed in San Francisco, and in that city learned the machinist's trade in the Risdon Iron Works. He then came to Tuolumne county and followed engineering some four years, running in the Soulsby and Confidence mines respectively. He was appointed first Deputy County Assessor in 1880, under John Monahan, and served four years. In 1884 he was elected County Auditor, and served one term; was also County Recorder four years. In 1890 he took the agency for the Wells, Fargo & Co. express business, and also assumed the management of the Western Union Telegraph line at this point, both being located in the same building. He is also acting as Deputy County Treasurer, having been appointed under the present incumbent of that office, Edward Parsons.

Mr. Inch has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Mattie G. Burden, who passed away in 1887. They had one child, Carrie E. The second marriage was consummated in October, 1890, with Miss Lizzie Mundorn, daughter of John Mundorn, a pioneer of California, he having located here in the early '50s.

Politically Mr. Inch is a stanch Republican and takes an active interest in public affairs. Socially he is allied with the I. O. O. F., the F. & A. M. and the Chosen Friends. He has passed all the chairs in the first named order, and is an officer in the second.

HARVEY WOOD, Postmaster at Robinson's Ferry, California, is a pioneer of '49, and for many years has been identified with the best interests of the town in which he now lives. Briefly given, a sketch of his life is as follows:

Harvey Wood was born in Westchester county, New York, in November, 1828, one of the family of four sons and two daughters of Alfred and Electa (Fountain) Wood. At the age of fifteen he left home, and for five years was employed as a clerk in a store in New Jersey. In 1849 he, with fifty-three other young men, left New York city with the Kit Carson Association and came via Texas overland to California, arriving at Santa

Barbara in June, 1849. They reached Los Angeles July 4, and then the mines on the Merced and Stanislaus rivers, and by the last of July landed at what is now Robinson's Ferry. Here he has lived ever since. He mined for seven years. Then he bought the ferry which he has run from 1856 up to the present time. He has been interested in mining also, and for twenty years has been agent for the South Carolina mines. He owns the Adelaide mines, which are perhaps the richest in the county. From a space of four feet square he took out $1,000. He also owns a ranch of 160 acres, and has a very neat and beautiful residence. In 1879 he was appointed Postmaster at Robinson's Ferry, and has held the position ever since.

Mr. Wood was married, in San Francisco, in 1864, to Miss Marinda Gee, a native of Massachusetts. Their children are Carlton, Percey and Allie. In politics Mr. Wood is a Democrat. He is one of the very best and most substantial citizens of Calaveras county.

G. W. SHAFFER, a practical farmer residing near Oakdale, California, dates his birth in Ohio, April 7, 1846. He was reared and educated in Iowa, to which State the family removed when he was a mere child. His parents, John and Delilah (Dearth) Shaffer, were natives of Pennsylvania, and their family consisted of eleven children, G. W. being the third-born. He was reared on a farm, and after crossing the plains to California engaged in farming in Alameda county. Four years later he removed to Merced county, and after living there ten years went to San Joaquin county and settled near Collegeville, where he owns 160 acres of valuable farming land. His present residence is located a mile and a half east of Oakdale, and here he owns 320 acres of fine land, which is utilized as a grain and stock ranch. Mrs. Shaffer owns fifty-two acres of valuable farm and fruit land, three-fourths of a mile northwest of Knight's Ferry, thirty acres of which are devoted to general farming and ten acres to choice fruits,—oranges, peaches, apricots, etc.

Mr. Shaffer has been twice married, first, in Alameda county, to Miss Frorena Acker, who died in 1885, leaving three children, namely: Emma L., Carrie D., and Edith N., now deceased. His second marriage occurred at Stockton, October 5, 1890, to Mrs. Emma J. Brown, *nee* Percy, a native of Canada. Mrs. Shaffer has two children by her former marriage, namely: Floyd P. and Leslie Milton Brown. Moses V. Brown, the father of these children, was a native of New Hampshire. He came to California in 1874, was married in 1876, and his death occurred June 16, 1885.

D. K. SPEARS, one of the substantial farmers of Merced county, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, January 17, 1829, a son of Ira and Phoebe (Tyler) Spears; the mother was a relative of President Tyler. The parents removed with their children to Canada in 1832 and located at

Prescott, where the father had a large foundry; he placed the machinery of the steamer Carolina. His death occurred in Orleans county, New York, in 1857.

Along with that great army of gold-seekers, Mr. Spears came to California in 1849, making the journey via Cape Horn, aboard the Mary Waterman. He left New Orleans in September, 1849, and landed in San Francisco March 14, 1850. At New Orleans he was second clerk of the Belle Key, a Mississippi river steamer, and he was also in the employ of Hussey, Bond & Co., ship chandlers; it was this firm that put him in charge of the cargo of the Mary Waterman at a salary of $25 a month while on the voyage, and $250 a month while unloading at San Francisco. From July 15, 1850, to 1853, he was engaged in mining. He then erected a sawmill on Sutter creek, which he operated three years; this was not a profitable investment, ending disastrously to Mr. Spears; he then went to San Francisco, and thence to Merced county, where he purchased a ranch near Merced Falls, from William Nelson; in 1857 he bought 180 acres where he now lives; this land is well improved, and he has been very successful in the raising of live-stock, especially sheep.

Mr. Spears was married January 11, 1853, to Martha Wigginton, a native of Kentucky, and they are the parents of the following named children: Peter; Minnie, the wife of John Ellert; Mary, deceased in September, 1888, wife of Enoch Ackers; and Frank, who was killed by a mule team at the age of seven years. The mother of this family died in 1883, and in 1884 Mr. Spears married Miriam Stribbling, a native of California. Their children are: Edna, Leonard and Miemary. Mr. Spears was elected Road Master in 1890, a position he still holds and fills with great efficiency.

JOSEPH FITZGERALD, County Clerk of Tuolumne county, California.—From the official county directory of Sonora we select the name of this gentleman as a fit subject for biographical notice on the pages of this history. Although a young man, he has been prominently identified in his official capacity with the public affairs of Tuolumne county for the past six years, and it is giving him no undue praise in stating that during this period he has performed the duties of his important position with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his county constituents.

Mr. Fitzgerald is one of California's native sons, and dates his birth in Tuolumne county, near Sonora, October 17, 1858. He was reared in his native county and educated in its public schools. His parents are Andrew and Mary (Golden) Fitzgerald. The former is a native of Ireland, who emigrated to America and located in Massachusetts in the early '50s. The latter is also of Irish parents, though born in Wales. They were joined in marriage in Massachusetts and came to California in 1855. Joseph is the second-born in their family of eight children. When eighteen years of age he engaged in mining for a short time. During the four

years that followed he was connected with a general merchandise house as clerk. Leaving this position, he went to Mono county and served as Deputy County Clerk one year. He then returned to Tuolumne county and again engagod in mining operations, at which he was occupied until 1885. This year he was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to fill the office of County Clerk, made vacant by death; has since held the office by election.

Mr. Fitzgerald was joined in marriage, in the city of Sonora, November 19, 1889, with Miss Euelie Kiel, a native of Tuolumne county and a daughter of Edward Kiel, of Bonanza mine fame. They have one child, Leslie B.

Politically, Mr. Fitzgerald is a conservative Democrat and may always be found allied with the more progressive element of his party. Socially, he is prominently identified with Tuolumne Parlor, No. 144, N. S. G. W., in which he is officially connected as Treasurer; is also a member of the K. & L. of H., Star Lodge, No. 861. He is associated with the Young Men's Club, a social organization, and is an active member of the Fire Department of Sonora.

BENJAMIN KENT THORN, Sheriff of Calaveras county, California, has been a terror to evil-doers in this and adjoining counties for many years.

He was born in Plattsburg, New York, December 22, 1829. His father, Platt Thorn, was a tanner by trade, and moved to Chicago in 1833. They lived in the old Clayborn House when what is now the great city of Chicago was a small town. Mr. Thorn was educated in the public schools, and brought up on a farm near Ottawa, Illinois, and clerked in a drug store at Ottawa for J. C. Nattinger. When sixteen years old he taught school at Plattville, Illinois.

April 15, 1849, Mr. Thorn set out for California, across the plains, arriving in August at Deer creek, Lassen county, where he camped three weeks. In September he began mining, camping where the city of Marysville now stands, thence to Yuba river. He bought a rocker for which he paid $125. For several days he averaged $8 per day. Then he went to Sacramento, and bought provisions, and started for Volcano. In February, 1850, he went to Mokelumne Hill, and mined. His next move was to San Antonio, in April, 1850, where he mined until 1857. In 1855 he was made Deputy Sheriff of Calaveras county. In 1867, he was elected Sheriff, and has served continuously ever since, with the exception of two terms. From 1855 to the time the law was repealed, he was foreign miners' license collector for one-half the county. He was also Tax Collector of the county for three terms. In his political affiliations, Mr. Thorn is a Democrat, but of the liberal type, and the Republicans support him as readily as the members of his own party. Calaveras county is Republican by 100 majority, and at the last election, which was the beginning of his tenth term as Sheriff, he had a majority of 436 votes. This statement shows conclusively his popularity. For many years he has been a Mason.

Of his private life it may bo said that he was married October 30, 1859, to Miss Annie Meeks. Their children are: Edith, wifo of Adolph Soher, and Susie.

THOMAS LUMBARD LINDSEY, a representative citizen of California, aud a pioneor, was born in Ireland in 1818. His parcnts wore John and Margaret (Cameron) Lindsey, both natives of Scotland, he being the fifth-born in their family of nine children. His early education was recoived in the old country, and in 1835 he emigrated to St. John's, New Brunswick, where he learned the trade of a ship-fastcner. At that trade he worked nntil 1857, when he went to Boston, and therc had some large contracts at ship-fastening.

In July, 1850, Mr. Lindsey left Boston for California, sailing around Cape Horn, and landing in San Francisco in Febrnary, 1851. Ho at once set ont for the mines at Grass valley, Nevada connty, and thence to Carson Hill, Calaveras county. At the latter place he kept hotel for a number of ycars. He snbsequently built the Revere House in Angel's, which he conducted, and all over the State he is known as a genial hotel man. Since 1868 he has been interested in the quartz mine near Angel's, known as the Lindsey mine, situated on the mother lode. He owns other property in Angel's besides his neat residence on Main strcet. For several years Mr. Lindsey served as Justice of the Peace, and was appointed a Notary Public in 1867. He was thon appointed by the United States Circnit Court as a Commissioner. In 1885 he was elected Constable, which offico he still holds to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. In politics he is a thorough Republicau. An extensive reader, hc is well posted on the general topics of the day.

At Boston, in 1847, hc was united in marriagc with Miss Mary Miller, a native of Ireland, bnt late from Nova Scotia. Their children are: Mary A., wife of William B. Keyes, John M. and George T., who was killed in the mines when twenty-one years of agc.

Mr. Lindsey is a large-hearted and wholesouled man and a public-spirited citizen. He affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

JAMES TULLOCH, a venerable pioneer and extensive quartz miner, Angel's, California, was born in Albemarle county, Virginia, in 1822. His paronts were William and Nancy (Whitelaw) Tnlloch, and of their six children he is the youngest. His father owned a large plantation and many slaves. In 1844 Mr. Tulloch learned the trade of millwright. In 1850 he came overland to California, and since 1852 has been engaged in qnartz mining, with good success. He thoronghly understands the mining business in its minutest dctails, and has invented many devices for amalgamating orcs, which are recognized as highly mcritorious, and from which he has realized handsome rotnrns. He has recently sold his interest in the famons Mattison mines in Calaveras county.

Mr. Tulloch's commodious residence is one of the attractive places in the town.

He was married in 1847, to Miss Caroline Whitelaw, a native of Missouri. The names of their children are as follows: William, Thomas and Anna, deceased, Lewis, a law student in San Francisco, Lillie, and Emma, wife of Jesse Sell.

Socially, Mr. Tulloch is a Mason and an Odd Fellow; politically, a Democrat and a Southerner in the fullest sense.

W. L. HOWES, Sheriff of Tuolumne county, California.—Prominent among the officials of Tuolumne county is the gentleman with whose name we head this sketch.

Mr. Howes is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Knox county, April 29, 1836. He was reared in that county, and received his education in private schools. He is the eldest of three children, his parents being Webster and Jennette (Lyon) Howes. His father was born in the State of New York, a descendant of Scotch ancestry. W. L. completed his schooling in 1851, and in 1853 crossed the plains to the new El Dorado of the West. After a short stop at Diamond Spring, in El Dorado county, he proceeded to Marysville, and finally located at Grand Island ranch, in Colusa county, where he remained some eighteen months; thence to Jamestown, Tuolumne county. In this county he has since remained, and was actively engaged in mining until 1889. He was for a time foreman, and later superintendent of the Table Mountain Blue Groil mine, covering a period in all of sixteen years in this and other mining operations.

Mr. Howes was County Supervisor from 1884 to 1888. He takes an active interest in educational matters, and has served the county as a member of the School Board some eleven years. He is a Republican politically, and for several years has taken an active part in local politics. In 1889 he was appointed Deputy Sheriff under D. G. Hart, who at this writing is his deputy, Mr. Howes having been elected to his present office in November, 1890. During the time he has been connected with this office he has proved himself an able and efficient officer. Socially Mr Howes is identified with Sonora Lodge, No. 197, A. O. U. W., of Sonora.

Mr. Howes is a man of family. He was married at Jamestown, August 6, 1871, to Miss Katherine Moris, a native of Ireland Their children are Jennie and Charles W.

G. V. GOTTSCHALK, Superior Judge of the county of Calaveras, California, is a native of Louisiana, and was born July 1, 1827. His father, James Victor Gottschalk, was a well known physician and a graduate of some six European colleges. The subject of our sketch is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with the class of 1845. His intention was to practice medicine, but he drifted into the mercantile business, which he followed until 1850. That

year he came to California, landing in San Francisco August 4. He then engaged in the butcher business, wholesale and retail. After this he became a bookkeper for a commercial house, and subsequently went to the mines, which business he followed some ten years. He is still interested in mining operations.

Judge Gottschalk has filled the following offices in the county: Deputy Sheriff, two years; Deputy County Clerk, Depnty Assessor and Road Commissioner. Having read law, he was admitted to practice, and in 1877 was elected District Attorney, serving two years. In 1879 he was elected Superior Judge, and ever since has filled that responsible position with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of all concorned. In politics, the Judge is a Democrat.

He was married in March, 1878, to Miss Charlotte Noriega, a native of San Andreas.

JOHN CHAMBERS EARLY, one of the successful mining men of Calaveras county, was born in Franklin county, Virginia, February 15, 1831. His father, Melchisedek Early, was a wealthy planter and owned many slaves. He subsequently moved to Missouri, where he died.

In 1850 the subject of this biography started out for California, coming across the plains, and arriving at Hangtown on the first day of August. He followed mining until 1863, when he went back East and entered the Confederate army, and served two years under General Forrest. After the war closed he farmed in Missouri for seven years, or till 1871, when he again came to California and engaged in mining in Calaveras county, being located at the famous Sheep Ranch mine. He has recently sold his interest in this mine for a handsome figure. He is interested at present in the Lost Boy mine, with W. A. Wallace.

Mr. Early was married in 1880, to Mary Steel, a native of California and a daughter of John Steel, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. They have two children: Rhoda and Mary. Mr. Early is a Mason and a Democrat. In a financial way he has met with marked success, and now, retired from active business life, is enjoying the fruits of his labor.

NICOLO BASSO, whose place is on Dry creek, near Modesto, was born in Italy, about eighteen miles from the city of Genoa, on the 12th of September, 1844. His parents were Lazzo and Rosie (Martini) Basso. His father was a land owner, being engaged in vine and fruit-growing; he died in 1887, his mother also being deceased.

Our subject spent his younger days in his native country, but at the age of seventeen, in 1861, he came to the United States, locating in California. He made the trip via Aspinwall and Panama, landing at San Francisco. From here he went to Angel's Camp, Calaveras county, where he mined for about six years, but without meeting with the success he desired. He next went to Stockton, making the journey on foot, thinking perhaps he might find some employment on the

way which would suit him. He engaged in gardening on the Calaveras river, in San Joaquin county, for about nine years, after which he came to Stanislaus county, locating in 1876 at what is now the Logamarsino place, which adjoins his present property and which he improved by horticulture. He has been on his present place since 1885, which comprises thirty-seven acres, and which he devotes to vines of various varieties, to fruits and vegetables. Mr. Basso is an industrious and intelligent horticulturist, who by his upright dealing and obliging manners has built up a profitable business, and gained for him the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends.

Mr. Basso was married in this county, in 1878, to Miss Mary Solari, who died in 1880, leaving two children, Lenisa and Stephano. Five years later, on May 24, 1885, he was married to Miss Annie Martini, who was born in the province of Genoa, Italy. They have one child, Harry.

G. L. McADAMS, Tax Collector of Calaveras county, California, was born in Tuolumne county, same State, July 29, 1864, son of Tennen and Julia (Nolan) McAdams, natives of North Carolina and New York respectively. His parents came to California in 1855.

Young McAdams is a man of enterprise and push. He has made his own way in the world, having worked at blacksmithing, painting, driving delivery wagon, clerking, etc. He came to San Andreas in 1884, and in 1890 was elected Tax Collector of the county.

He was married in 1885, to Miss Ada M. Hall, and has three children: William Grover, Ada Irene and Edmund Tennen.

In politics Mr. McAdams affiliates with the Democratic party. Socially, he is an Odd Fellow, a member of San Andreas Lodge, No. 50.

IRA HILL REED, District Attorney for Calaveras county, California, was born in Wood county, Virginia, in 1833. His parents were Parkinson and Eliza (Crane) Reed, and of their seven children he is the oldest. At an early day his father moved to Ohio, and in Marietta, that State, the subject of this sketch was educated, having in view the legal profession.

He started out for himself in 1852, being then nineteen years old, crossing the plains to California. Six months he spent on this trip, and perhaps he had as rough a passage as any who ever undertook the journey. In many places the country was so rough that they had to take their wagons apart and let them down over precipices, a piece at a time. They lost many cattle and several human lives. Arriving at Sonora in the fall, he settled in the stock business with Major Glenn. Later, he engaged in teaming, and took up a ranch near Adamsville, Stanislaus county. Here he was in the stock business for two years. Then he tried mining at Cherokee camp for a year, with poor success. The

following three years and a half he spent at Shaw's Flat, mining. His next move was to Six-mile Bar, on the Stanislaus river. Two years lator he went to Virginia City, Nevada, and to a number of other places. Subsequently he located a mine near West Point, Calaveras county, which he worked till 1889, when he sold out, realizing handsome figures.

In 1875 Mr. Reed was elected County Judgo of Calaveras county, and served four years. In 1879 he engaged in the practice of law. In 1871–'72, he represented Calaveras county in the Legislature, also in 1874–'75. While at West Point ho served two terms as Justice of the Peace. In 1890 ho was elected District Attorney, which position he fills at present.

Mr. Reed was married July 3, 1865, to Miss Sarah Bryant, a native of England. Socially, he affiliates with the Odd Fellows. He was a charter member of the lodge at Railroad Flat.

HON. J. B. REDDICK, Lieutenant Governor of California, is too well known in the State to need any notice here, but a brief outline of his life is appropriate, and withal a credit to the history of Calaveras county.

He was born in Scioto county, Ohio, April 9, 1845. His parents were William and Elizabeth (Sanger) Reddick, natives of Wythe county, Virginia. In the family were twelve children, only four of whom lived to be grown. The father is known to all old Californians. He made three trips across the plains, fitting out and furnishing emigrants. He brought the first company across in 1849. Returning by water, he brought another company across in 1851, and a third company in 1853. Thon in 1854 he brought his own family, via Panama, making the Atlantic voyage in the North Star, and the Pacific in the Golden Gate, landing in San Francisco in September, 1854. He located near Angel's, Calavoras county, and mined until 1858, when he purchased a farm, hotel and bridge, at what is known as Fourth Crossing, four miles southeast of San Andreas. Here he remained until his death, which occurred August 14, 1889, aged eighty-four years. His venerable widow still lives at the old homestead. By the roadside, near the old home, stands a little school house, unpainted. There the subject of this sketch went to school in his boyhood days. Thirsting for knowledge which could not be imparted in the common schools, he was sent to the State University, from which he gradnatod in 1869, with the degree of A. B. Then, for three years, we find him an humble pedagogne in the district schools of Calaveras county, two years of which time he was deputy Superintendent of Public Schools. He was then electod, without opposition, as Justice of the Peace of San Andreas township, serving two years. In 1875 he was elected to the State Legislature. After serving two years, he studied law with Rienzi Hopkins, and was admitted to practice, since which time he has been senior momber of the well-known law firm of Reddick & Solinsky. In 1880 he was again chosen by the Republicans

to represent Calaveras county in the Legislature, and in 1884 was a Presidential Elector in the Blaine campaign. In 1890 he was elected Lieutenant Governor of California, and many audiences in different parts of the State were electrified by his eloquent addresses during that campaign. He speaks without notes and in a rapid off-hand manner; has a fine voice, and captivates his hearers with his eloquence and deep knowledge of the subject which he discusses. Calaveras county feels a just pride in him who has, by his own efforts, worked his way from an humble pedagogue to the second office of the State.

Of his private life it may be said that he was married July 2, 1880, to Miss Mary L. Coulter, a native of Arkansas and a daughter of Judge Coulter of San Andreas. Their children are William Adolphus and Edith Sanger.

FREDERICK MAYER was born in Bavaria, Germany, near the river Rhine, September 2, 1826, son of Frederick and Katharine (Huback) Mayer. He is the oldest of six children, and in his youth learned the trade of a baker and confectioner. In 1850 he came to New York, and worked at his trade one year, and in 1851 came to California. After mining one year, he went to Mokelumne Hill and again began work at his trade. Here he bought a lot and erected a bakery and restaurant. In 1854 he lost all his property by fire. Then he put up a good brick building, two stories high, 30 x 60 feet, which stands to-day. In 1859 he bought fifty-five acres of land in the town site of Mokelumne Hill, and put out 400 trees the first year; the second, 1,200 vines; the fourth, 2,000 vines; the fifth, 2,000 vines; and the tenth, 1,000 vines. In 1878 he erected a distillery, and has since manufactured fine wine and brandy. In his large cellars are to be found immense tanks of wine, ten to twelve years old. He also conducts the Monitor House and Restaurant in Mokelumne Hill, and is one of the wealthiest men in the place.

Mr. Mayer was married in 1857, to Margaret Lebhry, a native of Germany. Their children, Emma and Louisa, died at the ages of four and two years respectively.

In his religious belief, Mr. Mayer is a Lutheran, although he belongs to no church. He has been very successful financially, his accumulated wealth being the result of his own industry and enterprise.

PETER SNYDER is ranked with the pioneers of California, and is in every way worthy of appropriate mention in the history of Calaveras county.

Mr. Snyder was born in Germany, September 9, 1832, son of Louis and Mary (Steffen) Schneider, and in his native land he spent his youth. In 1853 he came to the United States, and located near Utica, New York, where he engaged in farming and sawmilling till 1855. That year he came to California, via Panama, and located near Murphy's in

Calaveras county. For ten years he followed mining, with good results. Láter he bought land and began raising fruit and manufacturing wine and brandy. He also owns a fine stock farm near Murphy's, and is one of the most substantial citizens of the county.

He was married in 1860, to Miss Barbara Hawselt, a native of Germany. Their children are as follows: Louis, a resident of Stockton; John, of San Andreas; Mary; Jacob; Anna, a popular and efficient teacher in the public schools; Charley, Willie, Georgia and Louisa.

THOMAS N. SMITH, superintendent of the Utica Chlorination and Reduction Works at Angel's, California, was born in Philadolphia, February 23, 1859. His father, James Smith, a practical mill-man and assayer, has been an amalgamator in California since 1860. Thomas N. was educated at Napa College, taking both the literary and scientific courses, graduating in 1876, with the degree of B. S. He is recognized as one of the bost assayers in the State, having given his whole attention to this branch of science since his graduation. The works which he superintends were established in 1887, by Grayson & Buckmiuster, and they are now owned by the Utica Company. The plant cost $7,000, and nnder his ahle management is a paying side issue to the great sixty-stamp quartz mill.

Mr. Smith was married in 1886, to Miss Edith Boardman. They have three children, Thomas, Vera and Charles.

He is a whole-souled, generous man, and is highly esteemed by all who know him. Possessing the trne spirit of enterpriso, and heing a thoroughly practical business man, he is bound to make his mark in the world.

GEORGE STICKLE, tho pioneer merchant of Angel's, California, was born in Milan, Dutchess county, New York, in 1824, the eighth in the family of ten children of George and Maria Stickle. He learned the trade of trunk making, and at the age of fourteen years started out to make his own way in the world.

When he was seventeen, young Stickle left Newark, New Jersey, for California, January 31, 1849, on board the Mara. They reached Vera Cruz safely, and thenco he and his elder brother, Edward, went to the city of Mexico on horseback, in company with forty-one other men; thence to San Blas, where they bought a schooner, the San Blasena, and sailed across the Gulf of California to Cape San Lucas. Then he and his brother traveled on foot to San Diego, California, where thoy arrived August 1, 1849, having left San Lucas May 19. At San Diego they got on board the bark Oxford, .Captain Mason, and landed in San Francisco, August 20; thence up the San Joaquin river to the mines. In 1851 he went into business in Stockton, continning there one year. In 1852 he camo to Angel's and engaged in the mercantile business. In 1856 ho orected a stone building, in which he is still doing business. The same year he located the Stickle quartz mino, which

is now owned by the Utica Company. He is interested in the Stickle & Bennett quartz mine, which is an extension of the Gold Cliff.

Mr. Stickle was married in 1858, to Miss Helen Gillett, and by her has three children, namely: Mary, wife of Otto Dolling; George; and Hattie, wife of W. H. Miller, of Stockton.

Ever since he took up his abode at this place, Mr. Stickle has been thoroughly identified with its best interests. He helped to organize the first Republican party in Angel's; has served as Trustee of the schools; and was Postmaster for several years.

WILLIAM C. SMITH, the genial proprietor of the Golden Eagle Hotel at Angel's, California, is an example of the self-made man. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1849. His father, J. W. Smith, a sea captain, was drowned in 1851.

"Billy" was thus left an orphan at the age of two years. In August, 1857, he came to California, and, though only a boy, began mining in Trinity county, and followed it till 1864. He then worked in a grocery store in San Francisco till 1867, when he took a trip to Alaska on a mining expedition. The company with which he went consisted of James Conley, Charles Wilford, John Nelson and himself. They left San Francisco December 22, 1867, on the Russian schooner Otto, and were thirty days on the voyage. At Sitka they took on board two Indians for guides. They did some trading with the Indians, found some gold, and got $1,000 worth of seal skins. The expedition, however, was a financial failure, owing to the fact that the Hudson Bay Company was there in advance of them. After his return to San Francisco, Mr. Smith went to Mexico and took a contract to get out mahogany wood, etc. He was subsequently engaged in mining at Virginia City, Nevada; later, drove the Fulton Foundry team four years; furnished the town of Candelaria, Nevada, with water for two years. In 1880 he came to Angel's, and ranched and kept saloon at Milton. Next he kept a hotel and livery in Altaville. He then opened the Golden Eagle Hotel in Angel's, and has since catered to the public.

He was married, in 1876, to Miss Ida Clifton. Although he never attended school a day in his life, Mr. Smith has by his own efforts gained a fund of general information, and is an intelligent and upright citizen.

ROBERT LEEPER, a pioneer and successful mining and business man of Angel's, California, was born in Illinois in 1836. His parents were Robert and Julia (Runyan) Leeper, natives of West Virginia and Pennsylvania respectively. They moved to Illinois in 1828, where the father was a successful farmer, and a minister in the Presbyterian Church.

The subject of our sketch left home at the age of seventeen years and went to New Mexico with a drove of cattle. Till 1853 he was in the cattle business. He then came

overland to California with a Government train, and 100 head of cattle which he drove to a place twenty miles southeast of Sacramento. After herding them one month, he went to San José, and then to San Francisco, where he drove delivery wagon. He subsoquently went to the mines. When he arrived at Stockton he had just four bits, with which he bought cheese and crackers. In Placer county he began mining, and has mined more or less ever since. A few years ago he sold the famous Utica quartz mine at Angel's to Messrs. Hayward, Hobart & Lane. In 1867 he built a fine brick business block in Angel's, now occupied by Mike Arendt, general merchant.

He was married, in 1863, to Miss Susan B. Stevens, who was born in Missouri and reared at Racine, Wisconsin. Their children are Julia, wife of Theodore Whitelaw, and Frank.

Mr. Leeper has been very successful as a mining and business man, and is one of the most highly respected citizens of Calaveras county, and to such as he the material prosperity of the county is owing.

WILLIAM CROOKS, a merchant of Angel's, California, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, October 11, 1814. He is the fourth son of Jacob and Margaret (Cullen) Crooks, natives of Virginia. At the age of fourteen years he went with his parents to Louisville, Kentucky. He was a pilot on the Mississippi river for about eighteen years.

September 14, 1849, Mr. Crooks left New Orleans on board the Mary Waterman, Captain James Higgins; sailed around the Horn, and landed in San Francisco on the fourth of May, 1850. After mining for awhile, he was appointed Postmaster at Angel's, and served as such till April 11, 1891. For several years he has kept a variety store, school-books, etc.

He belongs to no secret society or church. He has never married, and is now the only one of the family living. He is a most worthy citizen, and is highly respected.

ISAAC RIPPERDEN. — The gentleman with whom we introduce this skotch is one of California's pioneers of '49.

Mr. Ripperden was born in Mercer county, Kentucky, February 15, 1816, the third in a family of nine. His parents, Abraham and Nancy (Pritchard) Ripperden, were natives of Kentucky. The father was of English extraction, was born March 17, 1784, and has been dead for a number of years. The mother was of Scotch descent. She died March 13, 1827. Grandfather Ripperden was a native of Pennsylvania, and located in Kentucky about the time or soon after the advent of Daniel Boone into that State. Isaac Ripperden was reared and educated in his native State. He followed farming pursuits until he was about eighteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to the cabinet-maker's trade, at which he was engaged for a time. In 1837 he went to the State of Wisconsin, where he carried on farming opera-

tions awhile, and also worked in the lead mines. In 1849 he crossed the plains with ox teams to California, and on his arrival at Hangtown, El Dorado county, engaged in mining, meeting with fair success. He also mined on Poor Man's creek, Placer county, in 1850, and in 1851 on Nelson's creek. Later, he located in Tuolumne county at Sonora, where for many years he conducted a dairy business. His present residence is located on the Tuolumne river, five and a half miles south of Modesto.

Mr. Ripperden is one of the most successful farmers of this section of the country. He has under cultivation some 1,500 acres of land, devoted chiefly to grain and stock. He gives special attention to the raising of horses and mules. His residence is a long two-story frame house, and his commodious barns and other outbuildings, together with the general surroundings, all indicate the pleasant home of a thrifty and successful farmer.

Politically Mr. Ripperden is a Democrat. He is a member of the F. & A. M., has passed all the chairs in the blue lodge and is a member of the chapter.

His family are of a long-lived and prolific race.

TIMOTHY CARPENTER BELL, one of the leading agriculturists of Stanislaus county, was born in Texas, about seven miles from the city of Dallas, March 7, 1847, his parents being John R. and Rachel (Sharrock) Bell, the former a native of Kentucky. In 1853 the family removed to California, via New Orleans, landing at San Francisco from the steamer Daniel Webster. Proceeding to Tuolumne county, the father engaged in mining, and followed this occupation at Jamestown, Campo Seco, Yorktown, Poverty Hill and other camps. In 1865 he went to Oregon, where, later, his death occurred.

Our subject was reared from childhood in Tuolumne county, and there at the early age of fourteen years he started out as a miner, his first experience as a gold-hunter being at Campbell's Flat, about five miles west of Sonora, where he met with fair success during the year and a half he mined there and in that vicinity. After that he mined at Yorktown Gulch, in company with James Wooter, for a couple of years. In 1864 he entered the service of the United States Government, and was assigned to Company H, Eighth Infantry, Captain L. N. Tower. During the time of his service he was stationed for the most part at Alcatraz, until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He then proceeded to San Joaquin county, where he worked at ranching, and came from there to this county in 1868. For a number of years he worked for others, and his first start as a rancher on his own account was when he rented a portion of the Martin estate. Mr. Bell has about 1,300 acres of his own, but the entire tract, including the estate property, embraces 2,800 acres, which is handled in unison. All of this large acreage is devoted to farming, except a small portion used for pasturage, and on the whole it may be do-

scribed as among the best farming lands in the State. The place is splendidly improved, the handsome ranch house, built in 1884, being the finest in the community, and the other buildings being in harmony. The tank house and windmill tower is a model of neatness, and stands out as a landmark for the entire country about, a view of it being had even as far away as Modesto. The brick and cement water reservoir is also substantially constructed and has a large capacity.

Mr. Bell was married in 1877, to Mrs. Adaline Martin, a widow, native of Tennessee and daughter of J. H. Gardenheier. They have one child, Georgia Catharine. Mr. Bell affiliates with the Democratic party.

SQUIRE WELLS, one of the substantial citizens of Stanislaus county, and a man who is keeping step with the general march of advancement, was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, about nine miles from Springfield, on the Rochester road, February 4, 1848, his parents being Benjamin and Mary (Waddle) Wells, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. The father went to Sangamon county when there were but one or two primitive structures in Springfield,—that now beautiful city,—but did not remain permanently on the occasion of his first visit. He went back to Kentucky, returning, however, to Sangamon county, Illinois, where the family resided until 1874, when they removed to Marshall county, Kansas.

Our subject was reared to manhood in Illinois, but removed with the family to Kansas and remained there till 1876, when he came to California, locating where he now resides, in a productive section of Stanislaus county. Here he was married, in 1878, to Mrs. Mary E. Pierson, a widow, whose maiden name was Henderson. She died in 1884. Mr. Wells was married to his present wife in 1885. Her maiden name was Mary J. Leighton, and she is a native of England. They have four children, viz.: Susie, Leighton, Katie and Ethel.

Mr. Wells now has 480 acres of land at the home place, and thirteen acres in another tract, most of the entire acreage being in wheat. Everything about the place denotes the care and attention of a prudent and energetic man, which Mr. Wells is. Politically he is a Republican.

HUGH SAYERS, a well known and highly respected farmer of Stanislaus county, California, is a native of the Emerald Isle, born in county Antrim, July 2, 1822. His parents, Hugh and Sarah (O'Neil) Sayers, were natives of Ireland, and are both deceased, the father having died in 1834, and the mother in 1838. They had a family of five children, the subject of our sketch being the third-born. In early life he entered upon a seafaring career, and in 1847 came to America. From New York he went to Charleston, and from thence he again launched out on the sea, being thus engaged for a number of years. He first came to California in 1851. Later, he located in Alameda county

and remained there one year. Then he went to San Francisco and was engaged in the wood and coal business several years. Next we find him conducting a vegetable and stock ranch in Nevada county, where he remained five years. In 1873 he removed to Stanislaus county and located two miles south of the city of Modesto. Here he is the owner of 150 acres of fine land, which is devoted to grain and stock. Mr. Sayers also owns valuable city property in Modesto. He has a frontage of eighty feet on I street, and owns a portion of the building in which the post office is situated.

Mr. Sayers was married in San Francisco in October, 1854, to Miss Prudence A. Collins, a native of New York. They have no children. Mr. Sayers is a staunch Republican, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

HERBERT L. UNDERWOOD, a prominent young farmer of Stanislaus county, residing nine miles and a half east of Modesto, dates his birth in San Joaquin county, California, August 19, 1870. He is the youngest in a family of three children, and was reared and educated in the county in which he now lives. His parents, Ezra E. and Mary (Hughes) Underwood, were natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively, and the former was of English descent. His father was among the early pioneers of this State, having crossed the plains to California in 1858.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage, in Stanislaus county, March 3, 1891, with Miss Jennett Calderwood, a native of Modesto. Her father, Alexander Calderwood, a Scotchman by birth, became a pioneer of California in 1849.

The ranch which Mr. Underwood is operating is a fine grain and stock ranch, consists of 741 acres, and is all under a high state of cultivation. This property is the undivided estate of Ezra E. Underwood, and for location and value is perhaps second to none in Stanislaus county. The residence is a large two-story frame building, the commodious barns afford ample storage for grain and hay, and the ranch is well supplied with sheds, stock corrals, etc. Politically, Mr. Underwood is a Republican.

ROBERT T. WREN, a respected and enterprising citizen of Stanislaus county, is a native Californian, born at San Francisco September 29, 1850, his parents being William and Ellen Ware (Lang) Wren. His father, a native of England, was reared and married there, and came to the United States in 1849, proceeding to California by the ocean route. He went to Tuolumne county and mined at Matlow Gulch, and behind Bald mountain, between Sonora and Columbia. He followed mining for years, and lost his life during the flood of 1861–'62, by drowning in the Stanislaus river, while engaged in repairing a boat. His widow survives him and is a resident of Columbia. Our subject, Robert T. Wren, was reared at

Matlow Gulch, and was employed there working for others until 1871. He then came to Stanislaus county, where he was engaged mainly at farm work until 1883. He then located where he now lives and where he farms 320 acres. It is the Dan Longway place, afterward the property of the Booths, and later of George Greiersen.

Mr. Wren was married in Tuolumne county, September 30, 1879, to Miss Nellie Filbert, a native of Maine. They have three bright, intelligent children, viz.: Henry E., Walter L. and William. Politically, Mr. Wren is a Republican. He is a progressive man and one who takes an active interest in public affairs.

RICHARD HARRISON BENTLEY.—The gentleman with whose name this sketch commences is one of the representative men of Stanislaus county. He is a native of Illinois, born at Macomb, McDonough county, March 5, 1834, his parents being James and Jane (Sweeney) Bentley, both natives of Kentucky. The Bentleys were of English ancestry, three brothers of that name having come from England to this continent at an early day and located in different sections. The direct ancestor of our subject settled in Virginia.

When Richard H. was a lad of eight years the family removed to Boone county, Missouri, on the Grand Divide between the Mississippi and the Missouri rivers. There the father died, in 1860. The year following the father's death young Bentley came overland to California by way of Platte river, Ogden, Sublette's cut-off, Humboldt river and the Carson route. He proceeded to Knight's Ferry, and there was engaged in mining for two years. He landed in the State $200 in debt, and of his two years' work at mining at Knight's Ferry, working for another, he lost eighteen months' pay through the failure of his employer. He next went to San Joaquin county and rented land for two years on the Calaveras river, about twelve miles from Stockton and near Waterloo. In 1864 he came back to Knight's Ferry and worked for wages two years, after which he moved to the vicinity of Paradise and worked there till the fall of 1868. He then took up 160 acres of land on the west side of the San Joaquin river, near Crow's landing. He farmed there two years, but the second season was a bad one, and he sold out and came over to the neighborhood of Waterford, where he rented 160 acres of land from E. B. Beard. He has farmed this land ever since, and lived there till the fall of 1891. About eight years after his settlement there he bought 640 acres of land, situated six miles from Oakdale, which he has also farmed since that time and improved until it is now a well-equipped ranch. In September, 1891, he removed his family into the town of Oakdale, but still gives his personal attention to his outside interests.

Mr. Bentley was married in Missouri, August 4, 1859, to Miss Cordelia Tedford. They have eight children living, viz.: Isom H., Minnie, Loretta, Maggie, Newton, Anrilla, Spencer and Lorena. They have also

lost two,—Amanda and Katie. Mr. Bentley is a member of the board of directors of the Bank of Oakdale; has been a director of the Waterford Land and Development Company since its organization, and is also a director of the Oakdale Irrigation Company. Socially he is a member of Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F. & A. M.; of Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F., in which he is a trustee; of Ridgely Encampment, No. 68, Oakdale; and of Canton Manchester, No. 8, Patriarchs Militant, Oakdale. He made his start since coming to Stanislaus county, and now ranks among the most prominent and respected citizens of the county.

JAMES FAIRBANKS.—Of the younger class of citizens who have made successful careers for themselves through their own efforts, and without resort to speculative methods, the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is noticeable.

Mr. Fairbanks is a native of Illinois, born at Plainfield, Will county, October 16, 1855, his parents being James Goddard and Ellen (Guist) Fairbanks. In 1861 the family came to California, making the journey by water, and locating at Atherton's Ferry on the Mokelumne river, not far from Lockeford, San Joaquin county, where the father followed farming. He is now a resident of the State of Washington. The mother of our subject died in Illinois.

Mr. Fairbanks was reared principally in California. In 1864 the family moved from San Joaquin county to the Monroe ranch in Stanislaus county, below Burneville. Two years later they bought a place across the river from there. When he was but thirteen or fourteen years old he started out for himself, and for the next six or seven years worked for others for days' wages while accumulating means to buy property for himself. For five consecutive years he drove a sixteen-horse team for Cyrus Bliven, between Stockton and several different places, freighting, and during this time he became acquainted with nearly every one doing business between Stockton and the mines, the travel by team being very heavy before the building of the railroad to Oakdale. He was one of the few to drive a sixteen-horse team, but he received good pay for it, getting $2.50 per day, and with his savings bought 320 acres of land at $5 per acre. This is the place on which he now lives. In 1889 he increased his possessions by the purchase of 200 acres, this property lying on Dry creek, about two miles from his home ranch. These farms are not his only permanent investments, however, as he also has residence property in Modesto as well as a block in Ripon. One pleasant feature about these various places of Mr. Fairbanks is that not one of them is incumbered by a mortgage. What he owns is his, and no one else has claim upon it. His land is all good farming land, and is devoted principally to wheat-raising.

He was married in this county, April 13, 1884, to Miss Laura Bowen, a native of San Joaquin county, and daughter of Calvin Bowen. Mr. Fairbanks is entitled to much

credit for his progress to his present position from the time he started out for himself a poor boy. Even after he made his first land purchase he followed driving team for his old employer for a year or two to accumulate ready money.

ISAAC FRAZIER, deceased, one of the old-time residents of Stanislaus county, was born in Clermont county, Ohio, in 1815, and was reared in that State. He went to Indiana when a young man, locating in Madison county, where he was married, on the 14th of February, 1841, to Miss Lucinda Cartwright. They removed to Vicksburg, Mississippi, in 1847, and in 1849 Mr. Frazier came to California via Panama, and engaged in mining near Angel's Camp, in Calaveras county. He followed that pursuit there and in the region of Sonora, Tuolumne county, until 1852. In that year he went back to Mississippi, and in 1853 returned to California, accompanied by Mrs. Frazier. They located at Altaville, and Mr. Frazier mined in the region about Angel's in the neighborhood of a year, when he moved to Cave City. There he kept hotel and also followed mining until 1858, when he bought 400 acres of grant land in Stanislaus county, on a part of which Mrs. Frazier now resides. He afterward sold one-half of this land, but made his residence here until his death, which occurred in 1867. The Frazier children are eight in number, namely: Orrin Marshall, Thomas Edgar, William, Frances, Alpheus, Cornelia, Ida and Theodore.

Mrs. Frazier was born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, her parents being Thomas and Barsheba (Smithson) Cartwright, both natives of North Carolina. When she was about nine years old (1835) they removed to Indiana, and there she was reared and married, and resided there until 1847, when she removed with her husband to Mississippi. Mrs. Frazier has about 196 acres of land, located near Oakdale, on the Stanislaus river, which runs through her ranch. The place, except thirty acres of timber, is devoted to grain-growing. Mrs. Frazier has been an eye-witness to many of the changes which have transformed this portion of California into its present prosperous condition. Residing on the ranch by the river side during the winter of 1861–'62, she was an observer of and a sufferer by the floods of that season. At that time the family residence was located where the river bed now is, the channel having changed since. The building had to be torn to pieces in order to save the lumber. It was again put up on the low ground, but afterward rebuilt at the present location.

MASA COLLINS, a prominent citizen of Stanislaus county, California, residing at Knight's Ferry, has become widely known in connection with the fruit interests which he has done much to build up for this section. A brief sketch of his career and the work of his doing will be found of general interest.

He is a native of Canada, born near Toronto, Ontario, March 2, 1827, his parents

being Maltiah and Olive (Hall) Collins. The father, a native of New York city, was by occupation a farmer, and the mother was born in Vermont. Our subject was reared in Canada, and crossed over to the United States when a young man. He came to California, by way of Cape Horn, in 1852, on the ship Grecian, leaving New York, March 2, and arriving at San Francisco August 12. He mined a short time at Placerville, then returned to San Francisco and was in business there two years. He then located in Alameda county, residing at San Leandro until 1870. Then he removed to Haywards, where he remained twelve years; thence to Knight's Ferry.

He was married September 2, 1854, to Miss Hester E. Simpson, a native of Canada. They have four children, namely: Charles William, Elden, Ernest and Herbert.

Mr. Collins is a member of the Summit Lodge, No. 112, F. & A. M., Knight's Ferry, and of the A. O. U. W. lodge at Haywards. Politically, he is a Republican.

When Mr. Collins came to Knight's Ferry in 1883, he bought twenty-five acres from William E. Stewart, who had already planted it in fruit and vines. From the start Mr. Collins has proved himself a success in the fruit business. He has about eleven acres in fruit, including oranges, peaches, apricots, plums, prunes, pears and apples. In vines he has three or four acres, table and wine grapes. The oranges raised on this place cannot be excelled in the State of California, and indeed it is not a perversion of the truth to state that in flavor they are not equaled in California, unless it may be by others grown at Knight's Ferry. They are also far above the average oranges in respect to texture and juiciness. In placing them on the market, Mr. Collins has not been satisfied with simply sending them out in boxes, as is done by orange-growers generally, to compete with the entire output of the State among non-discriminating purchasers, but has adopted a plan of putting up a large quantity in the form of marmalade and jelly. He has a secret process for extracting the bitter taste from the peel, and this is done and the peel included with the pulp in making marmalades. The product obtained is beautiful and tempting in appearance, and there is a widening market for every case turned out. The orange jelly and marmalades are not, however, the only goods with an established reputation he puts up. His quince and apple jellies, pressed figs and other products are all of epicurean quality, and it may be of interest to say here that at the exposition of 1891 Mr. Collins carried off fourteen fruit premiums on his products. His wines are also widely known, and his ports have taken first premiums wherever exhibited. His operations are carried on under the name of the Knight's Ferry Packing Company, by Mr. Collins and sons, and this label is used on their goods. In the spring of 1892 they packed between 300 and 400 cases of orange marmalade, two dozen to the case. Their canned tomatoes are recognized as the best packed, no company's goods excepted, and they have never been able to supply the demand at the factory. From one of his

Acapulco seedling orange trees, Mr. Collins picked in one year 3,200 oranges, which brought him $96 in cash. His operations show what is possible with energy and intelligent management in the fruit business, and also that Knight's Ferry is a place favored by nature.

JOHN M. EATON, a gentleman extensively engaged in farming operations in Stanislaus county, California, postoffice, Oakdale, is a native of Tennessee, born in Smith county, about four miles from Alexandria, March 22, 1851. His parents were William Jasper and Catherine Ward (Scrivner) Eaton, the father also a native of Smith county, and by occupation a farmer.

John M. was reared in his native county, and remained there until he was twenty-three years of age. In 1874 he came to California and located near Modesto, where he engaged in farm work. In 1876 and 1877 he farmed on his own account near Hanford, in Tulare county, and was there when the railroad was built through to Hanford. Drouth prevented the success of this initial effort of farming on his own account, and therefore he was compelled to resort to work for others. Since 1880, however, he has been farming for himself, his location being about seven miles south of Oakdale until 1889, since which time he has been at his present place, four miles and a half from Oakdale, on the river road to Knight's Ferry. Here he farms 1,400 acres of land, his attention being principally devoted to wheat-raising, though barley forms no inconsiderable proportion of his crop in some years. The land is productive one year with another, and under his able management produces good results.

Mr. Eaton was married in this county, September 16, 1883, to Miss Mary Eardley, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Charles Eardley. They have one child, Alpha Myrtle. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is an officer of the Oakdale congregation. He is an earnest temperance worker, and, believing that the best results are to be obtained through legislation, has united himself with the Prohibition party.

R. H. REEDER.—Although a young man, the subject of this sketch is one of the best known personages in this portion of Stanislaus county, the prestige which his personal popularity has given to his hotel making it the headquarters not only of the traveling public but also of the best element of all the surrounding country when business or pleasure calls them to Oakdale.

Richard Henry Reeder was born at Sonora, Tuolumne county, California, April 3, 1859, his parents being Henry Clay and Cleophas (Cabrera) Reeder, the father a native of the State of Kentucky, and the mother of Sonora, Mexico. The father came across the plains from his native State to California in 1850, bringing his long land

journey to a termination at San Diego, and continuing thence to San Francisco by water. From there he proceeded to Stockton, and engaged for a time in running a stage line to Mud Springs, in Calaveras county. After that he went to Jamestown, where he remained a year or so, and then drove stage from Sonora to Columbia. His marriage occurred in Sonora, December 25, 1855. He died in 1889. His widow, however, is still living. Mr. Reeder was well known as an old settler and was highly respected as a citizen of Sonora.

R. H. Reeder, the subject of our sketch, was reared in the county seat of Tuolumne county, his native place. On arriving at suitable age he began to drive a freight train on the route between Sonora and Oakdale, and was a well-known figure on this road for the eight years during which he followed this business. In 1886 he located in Oakdale, buying out S. T. Maxwell's chop house. In January, 1887, his place was destroyed by fire, and he started in again in a new location, in the following April. In May, 1891, he moved to his present location, in the Grierson building, owned by H. G. Newbanner, which was fitted up as a hotel especially for his use. This hotel is conducted in a manner which gives satisfaction to the traveling public and patrons generally, while the good nature and considerate treatment of Mr. Reeder serve to make all guests at home while in Oakdale. Though his business has advanced to a point that renders the keeping of the hotel a necessity, Mr. Reeder has not abandoned the chop-house feature, and a lunch counter and restaurant are still maintained in connection with the establishments.

Mr. Reeder was married at Sonora, March 23, 1881, to Miss Hannah Beeker, who was born near Bower Cave, Mariposa county. They have five children, viz.: Lillian May, Ada, Hazel Adele, Alma and an infant, unnamed.

Politically, Mr. Reeder is a Republican. He is a man of enterprise and good business qualifications, and these qualities, as well as his personal popularity, have given him high rank and standing among the business men of Oakdale.

FRANK SANCHEZ, one of the enterprising and reliable young business men of Oakdale, is a native of California, having been born at Oakland, Alameda county, October 4, 1864, his parents being Frank and Antonia (Perriz) Sanchez, natives of Jalisco, Mexico. He was reared at Oakland to the age of seven years, when the family removed to San Juan, Monterey county. There his parents died soon afterward, and Frank, though little more than a child, was left to face the world alone. To his credit be it said that the young orphan boy of that day has become a respected merchant, and now has a prosperous future before him. When eight years old he went to work on the Las Eagle rancho, near Tres Pinos, for J. M. Laviga, a wealthy man, who became interested in his young friend, and later gave him money to pay his way while

attending Santa Clara College. After an attendance there of three terms, his money gave out and he returned to his labors on the ranch. Three years later he went to work for Brownstone & Co., merchants, Lemoore, with whom he remained a little over two years.

At this time Mr. Sanchez went to Fresno to be married, the happy event occurring on the 6th day of July, 1884, and the bride being Miss Enseva Martinez, a native of California, born in Fresno county. After his marriage he went to Sacramento, where with two teams he undertook some work in connection with the filling up of the slough near the depot for the railroad company. After ten or twelve months spent there, he removed to Modesto, where he contracted to haul wood for the Paradise Mill. After eighteen months there, he came to Oakdale and started in the grocery business, in which he is at present engaged and which he has built up to good proportions. He is a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanchez are the parents of six children, namely: Antonio, Frances, Lola, Frank, Pasquala and Nestora.

MARTIN J. SORENSEN, County Recorder of Stanislaus county, California, is a native of the German Empire, born August 2, 1853. His parents, Andrew I. and Cathorine (Bayson) Sorensen, both natives of Germany, had six children, he being the fifth-born. He remained in his native country, attending school, until he was fifteen, at which time he emigrated to America and located in California. He completed his education at Haywards, Alameda county, and was variously employed until 1874, when he went to Hill's Ferry. There he engaged in the hotel business and other occupations two years. In 1876 he located at Modesto, where he has since made his home. For seven years he was employed as bookkeeper for the firm of E. M. Derby & Co., lumber dealers. In 1888 he was elected to his present office, and was re-elected in November, 1890.

Mr. Sorensen was married at Modesto, December 25, 1879, to Miss Annie Simons, a native of Germany. They have three children,—Andrew, Lizzie and Edward.

He is allied with the Democratic party and takes an active interest in political matters. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., in all its branches, and has passed all its chairs. He also holds a membership in the K. of P. and the U. A. O. D., of Modesto, and is Secretary of all the orders to which he belongs.

HON. CALEB DORSEY.—Among the prominent and successful stock-breeders of Stanislaus county, none are more worthy of mention than the gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch, a brief *resumé* of whose life may be of interest to the readers of this work. He is a native of Maryland, and dates his birth near the city of Baltimore, September 7, 1833, his parents being Edward W. and Elinor (Brown) Dorsey. They were both natives of Maryland,

the former having died in 1858, the latter still surviving, at the age of eighty-eight years. The family on both paternal and maternal sides were of English descent and among the early and influential families of Maryland.

The Dorseys were well known in the early history of the State. Edward W. Dorsey, the father of the subject of this sketch, served with distinction as a non-commissioned officer through the war of 1812. His brother, Thomas B., was also a prominent and well-known jurist, having successively held the office of Judge of the Court of Appeals at Ellicott Mills (now Ellicott City), extending over a period of thirty years. The subject of this sketch is the sixth in a family of ten children. He was reared and received his schooling in the State of his birth. His early life was devoted to farming. He virtually took charge of his father's business at the age of sixteen years, and managed it until 1858; from this period until 1861 he engaged in stock-raising and general farming on his own account. At the breaking out of the war he enlisted and was commissioned Lieutenant in the State militia; later he joined the Confederate army and received a Colonel's commission. He served in that capacity until the close of the war. He was in many of the noted engagements of the West, his regiment participating actively in the battles of Carthage, Wilson's Creek, Mount Zion, and numerous other short engagements. He was a prisoner some six months and was confined at Alton; later he was removed to Boston harbor.

He was in Texas at the close of the war, and from there went to old Mexico; not being satisfied, however, with the country, he continued the trip on to California, arriving in San Francisco December 22, 1865. He spent the winter in the metropolis and the city of Stockton, subsequently visiting Tuolumne county. In 1866 he purchased the farm property on which he now resides, which is located four miles north of Oakdale. In all there are 4,500 acres, 3,300 being devoted to grain-growing, the balance to pasture and stock range. The Colonel makes a specialty of breeding blooded stock, and on his place may be seen some of the finest stallions to be found in the country, sired by Nutwood and other famous runners and trotters. In addition to blooded stock he also raises mules in considerable numbers, and some years ago made a specialty of sheep-raising. Colonel Dorsey has been closely identified with many of the important enterprises of the State and county. Until recently he had been one of the directors of the Modesto Bank, and is still a stockholder. He is largely interested in mining and is now developing property located on the Stanislaus river, some fourteen miles from Columbia. He is president of the Valley Warehouse Company of Oakdale. In 1873 he was president of the San Joaquin Agricultural Society, and from 1875 to 1879 was a member of the Board of Directors of the State Insane Asylum.

He was elected County Supervisor of Stanislaus county, serving from 1869 to 1872; was also elected to the State Legislature for the terms of 1877 and 1878. In political

matters he is a stanch and stoadfast Democrat, and still takes an active interest in politics. Socially, he affiliates with Oakdale Lodge, No. 275, F. & A. M.; also with Modesto Chapter and Stockton Commandery, K. T., No. 8.

Colonel Dorsey is a man who always keeps abreast of the times, ready to aid and encourage all public enterprises worthy of consideration. Socially, he is a wholesouled and affable gentleman, and one who has the respect and esteem of the entire community.

L. W. FULKERTH, District Attorney of Stanislaus county, California, is a native of Iowa, born in Van Buren county, January 26, 1860. He is the fourth in a family of nine children, his parents being Asa S. and Catherine (McBride) Fulkerth, both natives of Ohio. The Fulkerths are of German descent, while the McBrides are of Scoth-Irish extraction. Asa S. Fulkerth crossed the plains to California in 1863. In 1870 he settled in Stanislaus county, and here served as county Sheriff four successive terms.

L. W. Fulkerth was reared in San Joaquin and Stanilaus counties, and received his early education in the public schools. In 1880 he graduated at the University Mound College. He then entered the Hastings Law College, and three years later received his diploma from that well-known institution, and was admitted to the bar. His preceptor in law study was John Gamble, Esq., now president of the San José College. Returning to Modesto, Mr. Fulkerth formed a partnership with a Mr. Houghton, with whom he was associated in the practice of his profession until 1890, at which time he was elected District Attorney. He is a stanch Democrat, and takes an active interest in political matters. He served as chairman of the Democratic County Committee during the last presidential election.

Mr. Fulkerth was joined in marriage at Modesto, December 18, 1887, with Miss Lena Morton, a native of Illinois. Two sons have been born to them, of whom only Carroll is living. The other died in infancy.

Socially, Mr. Fulkerth affiliates with Stanislaus Lodge, No. 206, F. & A. M. He has passed all the chairs in the blue lodge, and is now the Master. He has also passed the chairs in the K. of P. order, and is a member of the Uniform Rank degree. Besides these fraternities, he holds membership in the U. A. O. D.,—all of Modesto.

Mr. Fulkerth is a man progressive and enterprising, an efficient officer, a worthy citizen.

EDWARD GATZMAN.—The above named gentleman is one of California's native sons, and dates his birth near Knight's Ferry, in Calaveras county, February 13, 1860. He was reared and schooled in Calaveras and Stanislaus counties. His parents were Thomas and Bertha Gatzman. The father was a native of the German empire, and came to California in the early '50s, locating first in Calaveras county, and later in Stanislaus. He died in the month of May, 1887.

Edward Gatzman came to Stanislaus county in 1882, and rented 1,000 acres of land, ten miles southeast of Knight's Ferry, where he followed farming some seven years. In 1889 he purchased his present farm of 400 acres, 200 devoted to the production of grain and the rest to stock-raising. Mr. Gatzman also rents and cultivates 500 acres adjoining his own property.

He was married at Modesto, September 9, 1881, to Miss Mary E. Montgomery, a native of California and a daughter of J. C. Montgomery, one of the early pioneers of this State.

Mr. Gatzman is prominenly identified with school matters, being a member of the Board of Trustees of Dry Creek district. Politically, he is a stanch supporter of the Republican party.

R. B. PURVIS, the popular and efficient Sheriff of Stanislaus county, California, forms the subject of this biography. He is of Scotch and English descent, and was born in Callaway county, Missouri, September 15, 1843, the seventh in the family of nine children of Nicolas and Elizabeth (Sterns) Purvis. His parents were natives of the Old Dominion and members of old and influential Virginia families. The father died in 18—, and the mother in 1883. They were of a long-lived and prolific race.

R. B. Purvis spent his early life on the farm. He crossed the plains to California in 1863, and located in Napa county, where he engaged in farming some two years. He then went to Idaho and followed mining for a time, returning to Napa in 1866. Four years later he removed to Stanislaus county, again engaging in agricultural pursuits and continuing the same until 1884. That year he was nominated by the Democratic party and elected to the office of county Sheriff. He is now filling the fourth term in that office. He is active in political matters and may always be found allied with the progressive wing of his party.

He was married at Stockton, California, May 24, 1876, to Miss Jennie P. Phelps, a native of New York State.

Socially, he is identified with the F. & A. M., the chapter, and commandry, K. T., of Stockton; the A. O. U. W., I. O. O. F. and U. A. O. D., of Modesto. As an officer, Mr. Purvis has filled his position with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the community.

LEWIS MURPHY was born in Tuolumne county, California, February 1, 1853, son of Thomas George and Mary Frances (Suttorfield) Murphy, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Fort Wayne, Indiana. The father went to Texas about the time of the war with Mexico, and from the Lone Star State came by team to California, arriving here with his family in 1850. After a short time spent near Los Angoles, he proceeded to Tuolumne county, and there followed mining, off and on, for about three years, at Fine Gold Gulch. He next located about two miles below La Grange, on the

Tuolumne river, at what was known as George Branch Ferry, where he followed farming. After this he removed to a point in San Joaquin county, ten miles this side of Stockton, on the Mariposa road, and in 1871 to the place in Stanislaus county where the brothers, Lewis and George W. Murphy, now reside. Here the father died, December 3, 1878; the mother, still surviving, is a resident of Tacoma, Washington.

Lewis Murphy is the third in a family of six children. He grew up and received his education in San Joaquin county, and at the age of eighteen years started out in life for himself. Reared on a farm, he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life. His present ranch is located on the Oakdale and Waterford road, where he cultivates half a section, raising grain and stock.

Mr. Murphy was married in Stanislaus county, California, December 28, 1880, to Miss Ella E. Mathews, a native of this State.

His political affiliations are with the Democratic party, of which he is a staunch supporter. He is a member of Mistletoe Lodge, No. 88, K. of P., and has taken the Uniform Rank degree of that order.

ALBERT F. BROWN.—This gentleman is the superintendent for the Modesto Electric Light Company, which company was established April 1, 1891, and has since been lighting a portion of Modesto. They have thirty street lights of fifty-candle-power each, a number of the business houses are lighted by this system, and it is probable that in the near future electricity will take the place of gas altogether. The efficient superintendent, Mr. Brown, although a young man, has been connected with the electric business for some time, and is a thorough master of his profession.

He was born in Connecticut, February 22, 1866, son of Sylvester and Martha (Searles) Brown, both natives of that State. Their family was composed of five children, he being the third-born. He was reared and educated in Connecticut and there learned the machinist's trade. He came to California in 1889, and first located in San Francisco.

Mr. Brown was married at San Francisco, May 20, 1891, to Miss Louisa Hammer, a native of California. He is a Republican, but takes no active part in politics.

ANGELO GIOVANETTI, of Modesto, Stanislaus county, was born in the town of Aurigano, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on March 19, 1845. His parents, Giacomo and Maria (Groeini) Giovanetti, were both natives of Switzerland, his father being a stone-mason and farmer by occupation. Here our subject spent his boyhood, attending school between the ages of six and fourteen years, but left his home in 1861 to try his fortune in the New World. He took passage at Havre, France, on a steamer bound for New York, where he re-shipped to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, arriving in San Francisco in June, 1861. From here he went to Columbia, Tuolumne county, where he was variously

occupied for several years. He first tried mining, but wearying of that after a few weeks' unsuccessful work, engaged employment on a farm, where he remained for the next two years. Then, being offered an inducement, he accepted work in a machine-shop, where he remained for two or three years, when he again secured work on a farm, this time on a milk ranch in Tuolumne county, where he remained for the next couple of years. Having by this time accumulated some little money, he bought a small stock of merchandise and engaged in peddling throughout the country. He followed this occupation for about eight years. In the meantime, purchasing 150 acres of land, he planted an orchard and vineyard, when he discontinued peddling and engaged in the fruit and wine business. He continued in this business until the fall of 1884, when he bought 350 acres of land lying along the river, about six miles north and a mile east of Modesto, situated in Stanislaus county. This he principally devoted to grain-growing, although he planted ten or twelve acres as an orchard and vineyard. Here he and his family have ever since made their home.

Mr. Giovanetti was married in Tuolumne county, July 4, 1881, to Miss Fidelia Prescott, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, and daughter of Henry and Margaret (Callaghan) Prescott, the Prescott family being one of the oldest in New Hampshire. Her parents came to California in 1857, by water, and her father engaged in mining at Gold Springs, Tuolumne county. Later on he built a hotel, which he conducted until the mines began to fail, when he removed to San Francisco and started on a whaling expedition, from which he never returned, having been drowned in Magdalena bay, on the way to the whaling ground. The mother is yet living, and a resident of Gold Springs, Tuolumne county.

Mr. and Mrs. Giovanetti have two children, viz.: Frank William and John. Mr. Giovanetti's mother is still living, in Switzerland, but his father died in 1889.

ADMER NELSON STANDIFORD, a leading and representative citizen of Stanislaus county, was born in Crawford county, Indiana, near Vincennes, December 16, 1835. His parents were John and Jane (Osborn) Standiford, his father being a native of Kentucky and his mother of Indiana. When he was a mere child, the family removed to Cass county, Missouri, and soon after to Schuyler county, the same State, where he was reared to manhood. In 1863 the family came to California overland, crossing the Missouri river at Omaha, and, proceeding by the north side of the Platte and the old emigrant road, came into California via the Carson river route. After remaining for a brief time in San Joaquin county, they located in the immediate vicinity of the place where our subject now resides.

In 1864, A. N. Standiford went East as far as Denver, and was married at Boulder, of the same State, March 2, 1865. About the middle of June, 1865, Mr. and Mrs. Standiford started for California, and as the Indians

were known to be tronblesome that year they joined a large train bound for the coast, consisting of over 100 wagons. They had been ont about a week, and were approaching Medicine Bow when the first serions troubles with the savages began. Precautions had all along been taken, the train traveling and camping under guard, when on this particular day the Indians made a sudden attaek on the rear gnard, killing William Sharon, who was from Audrain county, Missouri. This happened just before noon, and the train was at once gotten ready for a fight. The expected attaek did not take place, however, and the emigrants moved on to Medicine Bow, where they encamped for the night, nnder a heavy guard. The next day they moved on to Fort Halleck, where they buried the body of poor Sharon. From this time on there was no further collision with the Indians, though precantions were taken for some time, the strength of the party and their watchfulness preserving them from attaek. Arriving in California, Mr. and Mrs. Standiford located where they now reside, and made this place their home until 1867, when they went baek to Missouri. In 1873, however, they came back to Stanislaus county, and have ever since been residents of the ranch east of Modesto, from which they have never been absent since for any considerable length of time, with the exception of a year spent in visiting in Washington Territory. The home ranch comprises 540 acres of excellent land, which is devoted principally to wheat farming, to which Mr. Standiford gives his personal attention. Mrs. Standiford was by birth Virginia M. Buford, a daughter of William and Mary (Jones) Buford, and the second in order of age, and eldest daughter of nine children, four boys and five girls, all of whom are living; her father was a native of Virginia, and of an old family of that State, though of English origin; the mother was also born in Virginia. She went with her parents to Schuyler county, Missouri, when a mere child, and when the Indians were yet nnmerons there, and there she was raised, attending the first school held at Tippecanoe, and on reaching womanhood was married, her husband having gone to that neighborhood from Virginia. Both of her parents are yet living, being residents of Glenwood, Schuyler county, Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Standiford have two children, viz.: Mary Etta and Maggie.

JAMES W. HUDLESON, a prominent farmer residing near Ceres, is a native of Benton county, Missouri, and was born September 7, 1849. His parents, James and Mary (McCluney) Hudelson, were both of Scotch descent and were both natives of Kentucky. James Hudelson was a pioneer of Missouri, his parents having emigrated to that State as early as 1830. He crossed the plains to California in 1850 and engaged in staging and teaming, hauling supplies to the mining districts of El Dorado county, working forwages for a few months. Later he purchased the outfit and conducted the same business until the fall of 1852, when he returned to the States, and the following year

again crossed the plains, this time bringing his family to the El Dorado of the West. Locating in Stanislaus county, he began farming, and still follows that branch of industry.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest of a family of three children. He virtually received his education in the school of experience, having been thrown upon his own resources at an early age. His early life was spent upon the farm, although later in life he learned blacksmithing, an occupation which has been of value to him in farming pursuits. He first visited Oregon in 1871, and followed farming in Douglas county until 1875, when he returned to this State, making but a short stay, when he again visited Oregon. In 1886 he finally located in Stanislaus county.

Whatever credit may be due to Mr. Hudelson as a practical farmer and shrewd manager, has been gained by his own exertions, as he has had no assistance outside of his own efforts and good judgment. In 1889 he took charge of the farm property of C. N. Whitmore, consisting of 3,000 acres, located near Ceres. This entire tract is devoted exclusively to wheat-growing, and is directly under Mr. Hudelson's supervision and management as foreman. Recently Mr. Hudelson has purchased a small tract of land near the property which he farms.

Mr. Hudelson has been twice married: first in Oregon, December 24, 1872; next in Stanislaus county, August 27, 1889, to Miss Mary F. Marsh, a native of Ohio. Mr. Hudelson is allied with no secret order, although a prominent member of the Farmers' Alliance of Stanislaus county. In politics he is a consistent Democrat, although he takes no active part in political matters. He is a man of many sterling qualities, a good and useful citizen, and one who has the respect and esteem of the community.

PAUL ARATA.—No one has done more to demonstrate the possibilities and capabilities of the bottom land along the Stanislaus river than has the man whose name heads this sketch. An example of his handiwork may be seen in the splendidly improved Brichetto place near Oakdale, which clearly shows that Mr. Arata is not only an accomplished orchardist and gardener, but an artist as well, the view to be had from almost any quarter being pleasing to the eye. He is now engaged in improving another place, of which mention will be hereafter made, and already it is assuming shape under his competent direction. A few facts in relation to his history and antecedents will be found of interest in a work in which Stanislaus county figures prominently.

Paul Arata is a native of Italy, born in the province of Genoa, about twenty-five miles from the beautiful city of that name, February 14, 1857, his parents being Giovanni and Madalena (Genecco) Arata. He was reared to young manhood in his native country, and in 1877 came to the United States, proceeding direct to California. He engaged in work at gardening at San Francisco, and after about two years spent there went to Stockton,

where he worked three or four months for Paul Brichetto, and then came to Stanislaus, still in his employ, and worked for him one year at the place on the river near Oakdale. He then leased this property, improved it, and carried on business there until the fall of 1891. In October of that year he leased fifty acres from Thomas Richardson, moved upon it, commenced its improvement, and now operates there about eighty acres, which is beginning to take on shape that is very creditable to Mr. Arata. According to his plans, at least fifty acres will be devoted to fruit, principally apricots and peaches, the rest being in variety. According to his methods, to improve means also to beautify, and his gardens are set in beds as smooth and level as a floor. He finds a market for his products at Oakdale, Modesto, Stockton and San Francisco.

Mr. Arata was married, in San Francisco, in September, 1883, to Miss Rosie Cuneo, also a native of Italy. They have one child, Louisa. Mr. Arata belongs to no society save the Garibaldi Guard, San Francisco. He made his own start in life since coming to California, and is deserving of commendation for the progress he has made.

IRA HARRIS, JR.—The subject of this sketch is a native of Rhode Island, and dates his birth at the old town of Smithfield, November 18, 1848. He was reared and educated in his native State, and there learned the trade of machine blacksmith. His parents, Ira, Sr., and Fannie (Clark) Harris, were also born in Rhode Island, and were of English extraction. His mother is deceased. His father, now well advanced in years, is still hale and hearty, and fills the place of a mechanic in the shops of his son.

Mr. Harris, Jr., came to California in 1884, and established his present business at Modesto some three years ago. His shops contain several forges and turning lathes, and are equipped with all the necessary machinery required in a general repair shop. He is a thorough mechanic in every respect, and is doing a thriving and constantly increasing business.

He was married in Rhode Island in 1868, to Miss Mary Mulholland, also a native of that State. They have six children, namely: William, Emma, Hannah, Mary, Ira and George.

Mr. Harris casts his vote and influence with the Democratic party. Socially, he is connected with the F. & A. M., Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 8, of Lincoln, Rhode Island. He has passed the chairs in the blue lodge, and has advanced to the Royal Arch degree.

THOMAS E. TYNAN, M. D., retired capitalist, Modesto, came to California in 1850, and since 1852 has been closely identified with the growth and prosperity of Stanislaus county. Some of the facts in connection with his life are as follows:

Dr. Thomas E. Tynan was born in New York city, January 3, 1818, only child of Edmond and Rosana (Stanley) Tynan, natives of Ireland, who came to America in 1817,

the year previous to the Doctor's birth. He received his education at Marietta, Ohio, completing his collegiate course there. Subsequently he entered Center College, Danville, Kentucky, where he graduated in medicine and surgery in 1848, under the preceptorship of Dr. Powling, an eminent practitioner of his day. Soon after graduating he entered into partnership with his preceptor, and continued in practice until December, 1849, when he came to California via the Panama route, making the voyage on the Mary Anna, as ship's surgeon, and arriving in San Francisco May 2, 1850.

After landing in this State the Doctor was engaged for a time in mining in Calaveras and Tuolumne counties. He came to Stanislaus county in 1852, and engaged in the practice of his profession; also gave some attention to agricultural pursuits. He retired from active practice fifteen years ago, but is still engaged in grain growing and stock raising. His ranch property is located on Tuolumne river in Stanislaus county. He cultivates from 2,500 to 3,000 acres, principally in grain. He also owns a valuable residence and business property in Modesto, among which is a handsome three-story brick edifice situated on the corner of H and Tenth streets, covering a space of ninety feet front on H and ninety-four feet on Tenth street. This magnificent block was completed in 1890, and is the most valuable and also the most beautiful business block in the city. The Doctor has unbounded faith in the future prosperity of Modesto, and is one of its most progressive citizens.

He was married at Knight's Ferry, to Mrs. Elizabeth Marvin, a native of New York city, and a lady of many estimable qualities. She departed this life in 1881.

Politically, the Doctor affiliates with the Republican party.

EDMOND PARSONS, County Treasurer of Tuolumne county, has been prominently identified with the growth and prosperity of the above named county since 1866. A brief outline of his life is as follows:

He was born in Greensville county, Virginia, December 25, 1831. Left an orphan at an early age, he was cast upon the cold charity of the world; was reared in Brunswick county, same State, and was there apprenticed to and learned the trade of millwright, which trade he followed only a few years. His ancestors came from England to this country and located in Virginia early in the seventeenth century. His parents had a family of three children, he being the youngest.

In 1852 Mr. Parsons came to California. He took passage from New Orleans, Louisiana, to Panama in the bark Emily. From that point he and several comrades came via the Hawaiian Islands by schooner to San Francisco. Soon after landing in that city he went to Sacramento and to Ione valley, where he worked at mining two months, receiving the small wages of $50 per month. He mined one year in Amador county and worked at carpentering a few months. He

then came to Tuolumne county, and was engaged in mining until 1865. During the years of his residence here he has served the public most acceptably. He was a member of the Board of county Supervisors five years, Deputy Sheriff three years, Town Trustee four years, School Trustee six years, and is now serving the county as Treasurer the fourth term. He has accumulated and owns considerable business property in Sonora; has 300 acres of Government timber land, of which some ten acres are under cultivation, in the district known as Strawberry, some thirty miles from Sonora; and also owns a liquor business in Sonora, which is conducted by his son.

Mr. Parsons was married at Volcano, Amador county, December 5, 1855, to Miss Mary J. Bradley, a native of the Blue-grass State. They have six children living, namely: Charles R.; Nettie, now Mrs. Dosier; Mary F., Lillie, Lottie and Edmond. They also have three deceased.

Politically, Mr. Parsons is a stanch Democrat, and may always be found allied with the progressive wing of that party. Socially, he affiliates with the F. & A. M., Lodge No. 28, of Columbia. He has taken all the degrees up to the K. T. He is also connected with the I. O. O. F., A. O. U. W., and Chosen Friends of Sonora.

JOHN F. COPELAND, a farmer of Stanislaus county, California, who is conducting operations on a scale sufficiently large to demand attention, is a native of Missouri, born in Greene county, near Springfield, April 3, 1849, his parents being James and Susan (Hall) Copeland, the father a native of East Tennessee, and the mother of Illinois.

In 1857 the family came across the plains to California, bringing up at Farmington, San Joaquin county, on the 16th day of October, 1857. In 1864 our subject went to Oregon, returning to California the following year. About 1872 he moved over on the Stanislaus river, near Burneyville, where he remained until 1874, when he went to Arizona. There he mined at various camps throughout the Territory, and also drove stage during a portion of the time, being there three years, and in all that time having a varied experience in frontier life. He came back to Burneyville in 1877, and soon afterward engaged in farming on the Desert, near Clyde Station, on the Oakland road. He next bought land at Burneyville, and there he and his father own, in partnership, a ranch of 400 acres. He removed upon the Tuolumne river, in Stanislaus county, in 1889, and at the home place farms about 1,000 acres. He is also farming what is known as the Owen's ranch, in Stanislaus county (the property of John Jones), consisting of 1,600 acres. His principal business is grain-raising, his products being wheat and barley. He is known as a thorough man in his business, and may be safely classed as a successful farmer.

Mr. Copeland was married in San Joaquin county, August 15, 1876, to Miss Mary Felton, a native of California, born in Sonoma county, daughter of John and Marbary Camp-

bell (Phelps) Felton, her father a native of Kentucky, and her mother of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Felton came across the plains to California in 1852, settling first near Placerville, and afterward in Sonoma county, on the laguna near Sebastopol, and about eight miles from Santa Rosa. The father died in Sonoma county, and the mother removed to San Joaquin county, locating near Burneyville, where she yet resides and where Mrs. Copeland was principally reared. Mr. and Mrs. Copeland have three children, viz.: Alma Felton, Frank Felton, and Vida May.

Mr. Copeland is a Republican politically, and takes an active interest as a citizen. In San Joaquin county he has attended the conventions of his party as a delegate.

DR. OLIVER is a native of the Buckeye State, born at Warrenton, Jefferson county, November 14, 1852. He came to California in 1876, and located at Sonora, Tuolumne county, where he has since been prominently identified with mining interests.

Mr. Oliver is and has been for some years one of the lessees of the famous Bonanza mine. This celebrated property is situated within the town limits of Sonora, and is generally considered to be one of the most wonderful mining properties in the State. It was first located in 1850, and has since yielded large returns in gold. While the Bonanza is a pocket mine, the great length of time during which it has been worked has served to establish the fact that certain well defined rules govern the occurrence of the pockets in which the gold is congregated. The vein matter leading to it is entirely barren of the precious metals. It is not considered any greater risk to operate a mine of this character than one in which the gold is more uniformly distributed. Formerly the Bonanza was worked through a tunnel 500 feet in length, with an incline of 300 feet. At present the mine is under lease to five gentlemen of Sonora, who have sunk a shaft to a depth of some 200 feet, through which it is being worked. The vein matter is about twelve feet in width. The course is north and thirty degrees east, and the dimensions of the claim are 400 feet in length and sixty feet in width. The vein dips at an average of about twenty-three degrees with the horizon, and cuts through bands of black slate. It is composed of narrow strips of quartz on the hanging and foot-wall sides, separated by porphyritic material. The vein is crossed at places with narrow stringers of quartz, and is traversed nearly horizontally by small seams stained with oxide of iron, known to mining men as gold seams. Many years of exploration have determined the fact that the pockets in this mine do not exist anywhere like accidents, to which no law of incidence is applicable as is the case in many gold-bearing veins where the gold is found in bunches of irregular occurrence, but that they follow a well defined law.

This mine is a peculiar one, and, if reports are to be taken as authentic, has during the long years in which it has been worked turned out over $2,000,000 in gold. The present

lessees have great faith in its future development. It is being worked under the superintendence of Mr. D. R. Oliver, a gentleman who is practical in the full sense of the word, and who has had vast experience in pocket mining.

THOMAS A. CALDWELL, attorney and counselor at law, Modesto, California, is one of the few remaining pioneers of the Golden State.

He was born in Warren county, Tennessee, May 26, 1834, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Hughes) Caldwell, and the fifth-born of their six children. Thomas Caldwell was born in Tennessee and was of Scotch extraction, his ancestors having settled in Virginia some time in the seventeenth century. He was a resident of California at the time of his death, which occurred in 1852. During the war of 1812 he served as a patriot soldier. The mother of our subject was also a native of Tennessee, her ancestors being English people. She died in 1842. Thomas A. Caldwell spent his youth and attended school in Missouri, whither the family had moved in 1841. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California, and a year later was followed by his father's family, who lived at Placerville for some six months. There young Caldwell engaged in mining, meeting with fair success, and in 1850 went north on a prospecting tour. In the meantime the family moved to San Joaquin county. He subsequently joined them, and the following four years gave his attention to stock-raising, teaming and the livery business. He attended the University of the Pacific at San José from 1854 to 1859, completing his course in the junior class that year. The following year he taught school. He began the study of law at Stockton, in the office of Bane & Bowlin, prominent practitioners, now deceased. He was admitted to the bar in 1861, and followed his profession in the city of Stockton six years. At the end of that time he moved to Knight's Ferry, Stanislaus county, where he remained until the county seat was changed to Modesto, in 1871. He has since practiced his profession in Modesto, and during his residence here has been elected District Attorney three times, serving from 1868 to 1871, and from 1885 to 1886. He is allied with the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in political matters.

Mr. Caldwell was married in Stanislaus county, May 8, 1878, to Miss Mary E. Strother, a native of Kentucky. During his active and useful career in this county he has accumulated a competency and is in well-to-do circumstances. He still, however, devotes much of his time to professional duties. His residence is situated in Ripperden, once a suburb, now inside the city limits of Modesto.

JONAS RUSH, a practical farmer and stock-raiser, residing eight miles south of Knight's Ferry, was born at Middleport, Illinois, February 17, 1830. His father, Samuel Rush, was a native of Pennsylvania, his parents being among the early Colonial

settlers of the Keystone State, formerly from Germany. Our subject was the seventh in a family of nine children. He was reared and received his education in Illinois. His boyhood days were passed on the farm. He crossed the plains to the Golden State in 1852, located in Amador county, and followed mining some twelve years. In 1864 he located on his present farm, consisting of 1,100 acres; 200 acres of this is devoted to grain-growing exclusively, and 900 acres are grazing land, he being extensively engaged in stock-raising.

Mr. Rush is unmarried. He is a stanch Republican, and a prominent and progressive citizen, always ready to aid all public enterprises which have for their object the advancement and welfare of the county.

R. A. SORENSEN, a prominent and successful brewer of Modesto, California, is a native of Germany, and dates his birth August 4, 1842. His parents, Andrew I. and Kathrine (Bayson) Sorensen, were both natives of the old world. Mr. Sorensen grew to manhood in his native country, receiving his education and learning the brewer's trade there. In 1866 he emigrated to California and located in San Francisco, where he followed that business for a time. Later he removed to Alameda county. In 1872 he came to Modesto, and in 1877 established his present business. His trade extends throughout the county, and is constantly increasing with the population of this section of the country. He runs two wagons constantly to supply the trade, and employs five men the year round in connection with the brewery. He is provided with all the facilities necessary for the manufacture of a first-class article, and those who use the beer from this brewery speak in the highest praise of its excellence. Mr. Sorensen also bottles beer.

He was married in 1875, to Miss Catharine Peterson, a native of Germany. They have three children living, namely: Andrew, Otto and Carl. They also have one son deceased.

Mr. Sorensen is a Democrat, but does not take an active part in political matters. Socially, he affiliates with the F. & A. M. of Modesto.

CHARLES T. TULLOCH, of Knight's Ferry, California, is a son of David W. and Sarah (White) Tulloch. His father is a native of Virginia and is of Scotch extraction. He came to California in 1852, and engaged in mining; is now next to the oldest living pioneer of Knight's Ferry residing at the old town site. The mother of Charles T., a native of Kentucky, is deceased. To them were born five children, the subject of this sketch being the youngest. He dates his birth in Stanislaus county, January 28, 1856, and in the public schools of that county his early education was received. He completed his studies at the State University at Berkeley in 1871. After leaving college, Mr. Tulloch was engaged in milling and stock-raising in Fresno and Tulare counties till 1883. At that time he returned to

Knight's Ferry, and three years later became a partner in the old mill property. The history of this old landmark is too well known to the general public to need mention here. Reference to it, however, will be found in another portion of this volume.

Mr. Tulloch was married in Fresno, November 11, 1879, to Miss Jeroma Neilsen, a native of California. They have four children, David W., John F., Neilsen P. and Elisa A.

In politics Mr. Tulloch is allied with the Democratic party. In business matters he is prompt and attentive, always courteous and considerate, and as a citizen he is highly respected in the community in which he resides.

JOSIAH PHELPS, Coroner and Public Administrator, Modesto, California, dates his birth in El Dorado county, this State, November 18, 1861. His father, Mortimer Phelps, deceased, was a native of New York, and a California pioneer of '49. He was for many years prominently identified with the mercantile interests of El Dorado county, and was one of its honored and highly respected citizens. He died in 1888. The mother of Josiah Phelps was before her marriage Miss Margaret McDonald, and of their four children he was the third-born. He was reared and schooled in his native county, and for several years was associated with his father in the mercantile business and various other occupations.

From El Dorado county Mr. Phelps went to Mendocino county, where for two years he was the managing foreman for a lumber company. In 1889 he located in Modesto, and and the following year was elected to his present position, in addition to which he is carrying on the undertaking business.

Mr. Phelps was married, at San Francisco, in June, 1890, to Miss Laura Lewis, a native of California. He is a Democrat and an active politician. Socially he is affiliated with Fidelity Lodge, No. 222, of San Francisco, and has taken the Encampment degree of the order.

GEORGE H. BLACKER, superintendent of the Modesto Gas Company.—This gentleman is at the head of an important enterprise that was first established by L. C. Branch in 1876, and was incorporated by the following named gentlemen as a joint stock company in 1884: L. C. Branch, E. P. Grant, John Briggs, George Toombs and J. H. Madox, all of Modesto.

George H. Blacker was born at Saint Clair, Schnylkill county, Pennsylvania, February 20, 1863. His father, James Blacker, a native of England, came to America and located in Pennsylvania in 1857. His mother, whose maiden name was Ann Williams, is a native of Pennsylvania. Thirteen children were born to them, of whom George H. is the oldest. He was reared and educated in his native State, and there followed the occupation of coal mining until 1890. That year he came to California and located in Modesto. He took charge of the gas works in April, 1891.

Mr. Blacker is a man of family. He was married at Saint Clair, Pennsylvania, August 9, 1883, to Miss Rose Bessler, a native of that State. They have three children, Olive, Stella and Miriam. He still holds membership in the Mineral Lodge, No. 285, I. O. O. F., of Saint Clair. Mr. Blacker is a man of industrious habits, progressive and enterprising. Although he has resided only a short time in this community he has many warm and influential friends here.

GUSTAV ZELLER, baker and confectioner, Oakdale, California, is a native of Germany, born October 18, 1854. His parents, Adolph and Frederica (Gatze) Zeller, were both natives of Germany. The father died in 1891. The mother is still living.

Mr. Zeller is the youngest in a family of five children. He was reared and educated in his native land, and there served an apprenticeship to the baker's trade. He came to America and located in San Francisco in 1884. Later he went to the city of Sacramento, and there followed his trade until 1886. That year he established himself in business at Oakdale, and here he has since supplied the citizens with bread and pastries. His establishment is centrally located on Railroad avenue, and has almost the entire trade of the city and vicinity. He runs a wagon to supply customers in the city and suburbs.

Mr. Zeller was married in San Francisco, May 22, 1886, to Miss Caroline Thams, a native of Germany. They have two children: Frank and Caroline. Mr. Zeller became an American citizen in 1889, and has since been allied with the progressive wing of the Democratic party, taking an active interest in local politics. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., No. 198, of Oakdale. He owns property here, and is thoroughly identified with the best interests of the city.

LOUIS H. DAY was born in Genesee county, New York, January 11, 1860, son of William and Elizabeth (Saxton) Day. His father was born in Maine, and his mother in New York. William Day was a Union soldier in the late civil war, and was wounded on the second day of that memorable battle of Gettysburg. Louis H. was the second-born in a family of eight children. His early educational advantages were limited, as the hard times that followed the war and his father a cripple, made it necessary for him not only to support himself but to assist in the maintenance of the family as soon as he was old enough to do so, and while quite young he was variously employed for several years. In 1872 he went to Michigan. While there he began a course of reading and study with such books as he could command, and also attended night schools for three years. In this way he gained much practical knowledge, and may be termed a self-educated man. He spent several years in Canada, after which he visited his old home for a short time and then went to Idaho, where he engaged in the real-estate business

He came to California in 1883 and located in Sacramento. The following year he took up his abode near Modesto, and engaged in farming for a period of two years. He was then employed as a bookkeeper until 1889, when he began buying and selling grain. In 1891 he leased the Modesto flour mill, and has since conducted a milling business.

Mr. Day was married at Modesto, November 26, 1888, to Mrs. Stockton, *nee* Perry, a native of Tuolumne county, California. Their family consists of four children, namely: Mabel, Willie Stockton, Louisa H. and Gladys Day.

Mr. Day is a dyed-in-the-wool Republican, and takes an active interest in political matters. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and has taken the Encampment and Rebekah degrees of that order.

C. C. STEVENSON was born in Boone county, Missouri, November 4, 1859, and is a descendent of one of the early and influential families of the Blue Grass State. His father, James R. Stevenson, is of Scotch extraction and is a native of Kentucky. His mother, *nee* Sarah Brutton, is also a native of Kentucky. Of their two children, C. C. is the older. He was reared and educated in San Joaquin county, the family having crossed the plains to this State in 1862 and settled there, where the father engaged in farming. Mr. Stevenson and his brother are jointly the owners of eighty acres of land, located on Roberts' Island, near Stockton, devoted to the production of grain. He removed to Stanislaus county in 1874, and farmed on the west side of the San Joaquin river until 1886, when he removed to the vicinity of Oakdale. He now resides two miles southeast of that city, where he rents and cultivates some 480 acres of grain land, the property of L. W. Smallwood, of Oakdale.

Mr. Stevenson was married in Stanislaus county, May 28, 1890, to Miss Luella Fox, a native of California.

Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.

GILBERT P. OSTROM, the popular and efficient Treasurer of Stanislaus county, California, dates his birth in Saratoga county, New York, January 11, 1847. His parents, James and Jemima (Rodgers) Ostrom, natives of New York, are descended from the German and Irish respectively. In their family of three children, Gilbert P. was the second-born. He was schooled in his native county and was reared to farm life, and in farming pursuits he has been engaged nearly all his life.

Mr. Ostrom came to California in 1868 via the Panama route, taking passage on the Atlantic side in the steamer Aspinwall, and completing an uneventful trip in the old steamer Sacramento. From San Francisco he at once came to Stanislaus county and engaged in farming. In October, 1885, he was appointed county Treasurer to fill a vacancy made by the death of W. W. Baker. He was elected to the office the following

year, and is now serving his third term. He is a stanch Democrat, and takes an active interest in political matters. He affiliates with Oakdale Lodge, No. 175, and Modesto Chapter, No. 49, F. & A. M., and the A. O. U. W. of Modesto.

June 3, 1878, he was married, at Knight's Ferry, to Miss Minnie Valpey, a native of Massachusetts. Her death occurred May 5, 1879. To them was born a son, Gilbert.

JOHN ROBINSON, chairman of the Board of Town Trustees, Modesto, California, is one of Stanislaus county's old and highly respected citizens. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Greene county, April 2, 1837. He was reared and educated in southeastern Iowa, whither his parents had moved when he was young. His parents, Samuel and Rachel (Camble) Robinson, were natives of Virginia and were descendants of one of the oldest colonial families of the Old Dominion. They originally came from England. John was the fourth-born in a family of seven children, and was reared on a farm.

In 1862 the subject of our sketch crossed the plains to California, and first located in San Joaquin county. Two years later he removed to Stanislaus county. Here he has since lived, actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. He owns 640 acres of general farming land in an adjoining county (Merced). He is a stanch Democrat and takes an active interest in political matters. He has been a member of the Board of Town Trustees of Modesto six years, and is now occupying the chair in the council. In educational matters he is also interested. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the A. O. U. W.

Mr. Robinson was married in Iowa in 1860, to Miss Nancy Crandle, a native of that State. They have six children living and three deceased. Those living are: Andrew J., Sarah J., Ada B., John D., Gracie and Leonard O. Emma J. died in July, 1883; Charles H. in January, 1873, and Samuel in 1878.

J. H. PROWSE, of Knight's Ferry, California, is one of the leading fruit men of Stanislaus county.

He is a native of Illinois, born near Galena, in Jo Daviess county, October 12, 1843, his parents being Thomas and Elvina (Bradshaw) Prowse, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother of Illinois. He was reared at his native place; was educated at Galena, and in early life followed farming. His father had visited California in an early day, and, being pleased with the State, started West again in 1864, being accompanied by his family. While on the plains they became imbued with the excitement which was then drawing so many people to Montana, in search of wealth, and consequently changed their direction to that Territory. They located in Deer Lodge valley, where they followed mining and stock-raising. In 1868 they came on to California, locating at Haywards, Alameda county. There Mr. Prowse remained until 1884, when he removed to

Stanislaus county and settled where he now lives. He has nearly 120 acres of land, and of this between fifteen and twenty acres are in fruit, chiefly peaches, apricots, figs, oranges and table grapes. His fruit is of fine quality and finds a ready market at Stockton, Oakdale, Modesto, and also in the mountains. He has in his orchard 400 orange trees, Acapulco seedlings, Washington navels and Mediterranean sweets; also between forty and fifty lemon trees. Mr. Prowse is recognized as a thorough orchardist.

He was married in Alameda county, California, in 1871, to Miss Sophronia Jackson. She died in that county, leaving three children, viz.: Mary Elizabeth, Thomas Harvey and Winnie Sophronia. He married his present wife in this county in 1885. Her maiden name was Miss Catherine Kuhn, and she is a native of Calaveras county, California, daughter of Francis Kuhn. They have one child, John Francis.

Mr. Prowse is a member of the A. O. U. W., and in political matters affiliates with the Democratic party.

C. A. STONESIFER, a member of the firm of Stonesifer & Minor, one of the leading law firms of central California, forms the subject of this brief sketch.

C. A. Stonesifer was born in Pike county, Missouri, August 12, 1857, and is the eldest in a family of five children. His parents, A. G. and Isabella S. (Weed) Stonesifer, are natives of Pennsylvania, the former being of German extraction. The family crossed the plains to California in 1864, and located in Napa county. The following year they moved to Stanislaus county. C. A. attended the Santa Clara College at San José, and subsequently entered the State University at Berkeley, where he completed his collegiate course. Having a taste for the legal profession, he began the study of law and in due time received his diploma from the Hastings Law College, San Francisco, and was admitted to the bar in 1882. The following year he returned to Modesto, and here, in company with R. C. Minor, engaged in the practice of his profession. This firm has established and holds the leading practice of the county. Among the important corporations for which these gentlemen figure as attorneys are the Modesto and Oakdale banks and the Modesto Irrigation District.

Mr. Stonesifer was joined in marriage at San José, June 22, 1882, with Miss Roena Allen, who is also a native of Missouri. They have one child living, Clarence A. Alfred B. died in February, 1890.

Mr. Stonesifer is a member of the F. & A. M., of Modesto. He is a Democrat and takes an active interest in political matters.

WILLIAM K. WALLIS.—This gentleman is a California pioneer of 1850, and since 1853 has been prominently identified with the successful farmers of Stanislaus county. A brief sketch of his life is as follows:

Mr. Wallis was born in Cornwall, England, October 18, 1824, the second in a family of

eight children. His parents, John and Elizabeth (Kendall) Wallis, natives of England, emigrated with their family to America and located in Iowa county, Wisconsin, in 1834, where they resided many years. Both are deceased. William K. was reared and educated in Wisconsin. He was engaged in farming there and also had a practical experience in the lead mines of that State.

In 1850 Mr. Wallis made arrangements to cross the plains to California. Circumstances, however, caused him to change his plans, and he came via Panama, making the Atlantic voyage in the steamer Falcon, and the Pacific in the Union. On his arrival here he at once set out for the mines, and ere long was engaged in mining in Sonora, Tuolumne county, meeting with fair success. Later, he turned his attention to the butcher business at Springfield, same county. He came to Stanislaus county in the spring of 1853, where he has since devoted his energies to stock-raising and general farming. His ranch consists of 1,120 acres, and is located twelve miles south of the city of Modesto. About 160 acres of this farm are used exclusively for the production of grain, the rest a vast stock range.

Mr. Wallis has made several trips back to the Eastern States since he first came to California. August 27, 1861, he was married in Wisconsin, to Miss Katherine Hendy, also a native of Cornwall, England. She came to America with her parents when a child. Mr. and Mrs. Wallis have two children: Rosalind and William. They lost one daughter. His political affiliations are with the Republican party, and for many years he has served the public as School Trustee. He and his family are consistent members of the Methodist Church at West Port. In the building of this church Mr. Wallis was a most efficient worker, filling the place of a mechanic and also contributing liberally in a financial way.

CAPTAIN R. K. WHITMORE was born in Monmouth county, New Jersey, May 2, 1853. His father, Richard Whitmore, a native of Ohio and a descendant of English ancestry, died in 1878. His mother, whose maiden name was Anna M. Whitmore, is a native of New York city. Of their six children the Captain was the third-born. The family came to California via Panama, in 1856. The father was a seafaring man, and had followed the sea some twenty-two years previous to their coming to this State. In San Joaquin county the subject of our sketch was reared and educated, he being a graduate of a college near Stockton, known as Collegeville, in the class of 1871. The above mentioned college was at one time a prominent institution of San Joaquin county, but was closed several years ago in consequence of its not being self-supporting. The subject of our sketch is a practical farmer, to which calling he was reared. He is now located half a mile east of Ceres, where he cultivates 1,240 acres of land, 960 acres of which is rented by him. The rest—280 acres—is the estate of his father. The entire tract is devoted to the production of grain.

He was married at Santa Cruz, California, January 20, 1876, to Miss Annie Pagles, who was born of German parents at Baltimore, Maryland. They have a family of seven children, namely: Blanch A., Harry H., Aurelia A., Gertrude, Edmond, Nellie and John H.

Captain Whitmore is in politics a Republican. He is now serving as a member of the Board of School Trustees of Davis School district. Socially, he is allied with the Wyldy Lodge, No. 149, I. O. O. F., of Modesto, and for the past five years has been in command of Company D, Sixth Infantry, Third Brigade, National Guards of California.

DAVID R. MOODY is classed among the prosperous and progressive farmers of Stanislaus county, California. A sketch of his life will be read with interest by many, and, briefly, is as follows:

David R. Moody was born in Kennebec county, Maine, July 29, 1829. His parents were Royal R. and Eliza (Nickelson) Moody. The former was a native of Maine and a descendant of English ancestors, who were early settlers of that State. He died in 1881. The latter was of English birth. Her death occurred in 1864. In their family of ten children David R. was the second-born. He was reared to farm life, and was educated in his native State. After reaching manhood he went South, and in Virginia and Georgia spent some time. He then returned to Maine. In 1859 he set out for California, via the Panama route, taking passage on the Atlantic side in the Great Eastern, and making the Pacific voyage in the Golden Gate. On his arrival at San Francisco, he went at once to the mines of Placer county, and there and in Nevada county, was engaged in mining during a period of twelve years. He came to Stanislaus county in 1871, is now residing five miles west of Modesto, and is the owner of half a section of beautiful farming land on the Tuolumne river. He has a small orchard in the bottom to supply fruits for family use, the uplands being devoted exclusively to grain-growing and stock-raising.

Mr. Moody was married in Maine, December 26, 1858, to Miss Eveline Moody, a native of that State. They have two sons, Zina A. and Clinton H. Her ancestors were of English and Scotch extraction, and were among the earliest settlers of Maine. Her grandfather, Jeremiah Moody, was a patriot soldier in the Revolutionary war, and two of her paternal uncles, Nathaniel and Levi Moody, took part in the war of 1812.

Mr. Moody is a stanch Republican, taking, however, no active part in political matters. The Moodys are of a long-lived and prolific race.

EDWIN N. MOULTON is a native of Maine, born in the town of Hiram, Oxford county, November 6, 1867, his parents being Reuben F. and Isabella (Kimball) Moulton, both natives of Maine and of English extraction. The ancestors on the Moulton side were among the early settlers of Maine, they having located near the coast at Scarborough, where the old block house

still remains as a landmark. The grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Reuben Moulion, was a patriarch soldier during the Revolutionary struggle, and also participated in the early Indian wars.

Edwin N. Moulton is the third in a family of six children. He was reared on a farm in his native State until eighteen years of age, and was educated in the public schools. He came to California in 1884, locating in San Joaquin county, near the city of Stockton, where he followed farming until 1891, when he rented the farm upon which he now resides. The property is owned by the Bank of Modesto, is located seven miles southwest of Knight's Ferry, and consists of 720 acres, all devoted to grain-growing.

Although a recent arrival in Stanislaus county, Mr. Moulton is one of its extensive and substantial tillers of the soil. He is a member of Truth Lodge, No. 55, I. O. O. F., of Stockton. He is a most worthy citizen, and in politics is a stanch and active Republican.

Mr. Moulton was married at Lockwood, San Joaquin county, October 25, 1891, to Miss Lora Brown, a native of Missouri. Her father, Frank M. Brown, a well-known farmer of San Joaquin county, came to California some sixteen years ago.

C. A. POST, Postmaster of Modesto, California, has been identified with the best interests of this town ever since it was made the county seat of Stanislaus county, and has been a prominent factor in its growth and development. As such he is eminently deserving of biographical mention in this work; indeed, to omit a sketch of his life from these pages would be to leave them incomplete.

C. A. Post was born in New York State, April 10, 1840. His parents, George and Elizabeth (Jessup) Post, were both natives of the Empire State. The former was of French extraction, his ancestors having been among the early settlers of New York. He died in 1869, aged seventy-six years. The mother was of Scotch descent, the Jessups having come to this country and settled in Pennsylvania during colonial times. She, too, is deceased. George Post and his wife were the parents of ten children, the subject of our sketch being the fourth-born. He spent his youth on a farm, his early life being not unlike that of other farmer boys. In 1856 he came to California. Taking passage in the steamer Central America, he made the Atlantic voyage, and after crossing the Isthmus, embarked in the Golden Gate, arriving soon after at San Francisco. In crossing the Isthmus, he was among the passengers that escaped uninjured in the terrible railroad accident of that year.

After landing in California, Mr. Post went to Stockton, and later to Columbia, Tuolumne county, where he engaged some five years in mining operations, in which he was fairly successful. On his return to Stockton, he was for a time employed in teaming from that city to the mines at Virginia city, Nevada. He subsequently became a clerk in the merchandise house of H. S. Sargent,

Stockton, where he remained two years. He next engaged in clerking at Paradise, Stanislaus county, with R. C. Gridley, and after the death of that gentleman he was several years connected in business with Mrs. Gridley. He came to Modesto in 1870, and in 1876 engaged in merchandising. He is at present in partnership with J. M. Shafe, doing a general grocery business, under the firm name of Shafe & Post. He was appointed Postmaster of Modesto, and took charge of the office March 1, 1890.

His political affiliations are with the Republican party. Socially, he is a member of the K. of H. and the K. of P.; has been officially connected with the Uniform Rank degree of the last named order, and has passed all the chairs in both orders.

JOHN H. SHINE, City Treasurer of Sonora, California, has been a prominent and progressive citizen of Sonora for the past twenty years.

Mr. Shine is a native of Wisconsin, born at Kenosha, May 5, 1848, son of Dennis and Eliza (Leston) Shine, natives of Ireland. His parents came to America in 1846 and located in Wisconsin. In their family of nine children he was the fourth-born. He attended school until he was fourteen, and at that youthful age enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-third Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers. He served as a private until the close of the war, and after being discharged from the service returned to his native State, where he engaged in farming until 1868. That year he came to California, making the journey via Panama.

Arrived in the Golden State, Mr. Shine engaged in mining the first year at Sutter creek in Amador county. He then came to Sonora, and during the few years that followed was employed in stage driving. Mr. Shine was the recipient of a handsome gold timepiece, presented to him by Wells, Fargo & Co., November 15, 1876, for valuable services rendered to that company, he having been instrumental in saving their treasure from highwaymen. In 1872 he purchased the well-known pioneer livery stables, formerly the property of Robert Boyd. This establishment is the largest of its kind in the mountains. It has a capacity sufficient to accommodate seventy-five head of horses besides his own stock. He furnishes all sorts of turnouts for the use of commercial travelers, campers, surveying parties, tourists, etc. He furnishes transportation, under special contracts, in stage loads, to tourists into the Yo Semite valley. As a stage-line manager Mr. Shine has had much practical experience; was a stockholder in and superintendent of the Nevada Stage Company for many years. He disposed of his interest in that company some years ago. In 1885 he secured mail contracts, and has since managed the stage lines between Sonora, Oakdale, Copperopolis and other points, daily lines, Sundays excepted. This business is done under the firm name of J. H. Shine & Co., one-half of the capital stock being owned by Mr. Shine.

He is a Republican in the full meaning of the word. He is a School Trustee and a mem-

her of the City Council, and is President of the Twenty-ninth District Fair Association. To some extent Mr. Shine is still interested in mining property in Tuolumne county. He owns the Charity mine, located eleven miles from Sonora, which, however, is not being worked at the present time. He is a prominent member of the G. A. R. and the I. O. O. F., having taken the Encampment degree; is also prominently identified with the Chosen Friends and the A. O. U. W.

Mr. Shine is a man of family. He was married, at Sonora, January 7, 1877, to Miss Anna G. Gibbons, a native of California and a daughter of David Gibbons, who came to this State in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Shine have five children, namely: John D., Alice T., Francis L., Charles D. and Nellie.

BENNETT ANGEL, proprietor of a wagon and carriage manufactory and a general blacksmith and repair shop on Tenth street, between I and J, Modesto, is one of the representative citizens of his town, and has been selected as a fitting subject for biographical mention in this work. Briefly the facts in connection with his life are as follows:

Bennett Angel was born in Ashtabula, Ohio, August 22, 1828. There he was reared and educated, and learned the trade of wheelwright with his father. He was the third-born in a family of eight children, his parents being Bennett and Clarissa (White) Angel. His father, a native of Germany, came with his parents to America when he was four years old. His mother was born in Vermont. The family removed to Burlington, Iowa, in 1843, where the subject of our sketch worked at his trade. Later he went to Dallas City, Illinois, remaining there three years. In 1861 he went to Idaho. His next move was to Stockton, California, where he followed his trade eleven years as a journeyman. He came to Modesto in 1872 and opened his present business. Being a practical workman in all branches of his business, he soon built up a good trade. The demand for his work being local, he employs only three men besides himself. He owns both his business property and residence.

Mr. Angel was married, in the city of Stockton, March 28, 1869, to Miss Jennett McDonald, a native of Canada. He affiliates with the Republican party, taking, however, no active part in political matters.

BAKER AND DESCHAMP.—This well-known livery firm of Oakdale, California, has acquired a reputation among the traveling public second to none in this portion of the State. The traveling salesmen who make Oakdale their starting point for the trip to the Southern mines, as well as those who only make a portion of that journey from this point, have learned to appreciate the integrity and good treatment met with at the hands of this firm. Though both members of the firm are young men, they are thorough masters of the business of conducting a livery stable on terms to suit their patrons, and to this is undoubtedly due

their success. Both as enterprising citizens are justly entitled to special consideration in a historical work designed to convey to the general public a correct impression of the facilities afforded by the various towns referred to in the volume. Therefore a brief sketch of each is herewith given:

Moses Baker, a native of Montreal, Canada, was born April 14, 1855, the son of Canadian parents. He grew up in Montreal, and his first work in life on his own account was in connection with the butcher business, which he followed for five years. After this he was employed in teaming and attending to the general duties in connection with a race-track for fine horses, and thus it was that he became familiar with the real needs and the proper care of horses. At this he was engaged about two years.

In 1879 he came to California, and began anew at the extremity of the continent. He located at first in Tuolumne county, and for a year followed the butcher business. During the next three years, also in that county, he was connected with a livery business. In 1883 he came to Oakdale, and for three years was engaged in the liquor business. He next purchased the livery and feed establishment with which he is now identified, and conducted it along until 1888. That year Mr. Deschamp became his partner.

Mr. Baker was married in Tuolumne county, February 22, 1884, to Miss Katie Sharp, a native of California. They have four children, namely: Flossie, Harry, Moses and Ella. Politically, Mr. Baker is a Democrat. He was naturalized in 1882.

Joseph Deschamp, the other member of the firm above described, was born October 28, 1870, and is also a native of Montreal, Canada. His parents, Charles and Ann (Belenger) Deschamp, were both born in Canada, and the father is still living. The mother died July 29, 1888. Joseph is the youngest in a family of four children. He was reared on a farm in the vicinity of Montreal, and received his education there. He came to California in 1885, arriving on the 17th of December, coming out of the land of icy cold and spending the holidays of that year in the genial climate of sunny California. He became identified with the livery business after his arrival, and in November, 1888, entered into partnership with Mr. Baker.

These two young men conduct their establishment on the "live and let live" principle, and all their customers receive courteous treatment at their hands. An index to the character of the proprietors is furnished by the general condition of neatness pervading the establishment and every thing about it.

HON. ADOLPHUS HEWEL, ex-Superior Judge of Stanislaus county, California, is prominent among the representative business men of the county, and none are more worthy of mention in its history than he. Although retired from the active practice of his profession, he is still financially connected with many of the important enterprises of Modesto and Stanislaus

county. He is a stockholder in the Oakdale Bank, and is a member of the Board of Directors of both the First National and the Modesto banks of Modesto.

Judge Hewel is a native of the German Empire, born at Hanover May 9, 1835, the third in a family of ten children. His parents, Lewis and Cordolia (Ikournch) Hewel, natives of Germany, are deceased, the father having died in 1849, and the mother in 1882. The Judge remained in his native city until he was fourteen years of age, when he emigrated to America and located in New York. In July, 1852, he arrived in San Francisco. He there followed various occupations until December of the same year, when he went to Mariposa county and began mining, remaining there thus engaged until 1855. Then he went to La Grange and Knight's Ferry, in Stanislaus county. In 1857 he took a trip into northern California, and located at French Gulch, Shasta county, where he followed mining until 1858. Returning to Knight's Ferry, he resumed mining, also beginning the study of law with L. Basse as his preceptor. He was admitted to the bar in 1863, and began the practice of his profession at Knight's Ferry in partnership with A. Scholl. The business continued under the firm style of Schell & Hewel until 1872, when Mr. Schell retired from the company. Later, Mr. Hewel became associated in practice with W. E. Turner, this partnership being dissolved on the election of Mr. Hewel to the office of Superior Judge in 1879. This arduous and responsible position he filled for five years in a manner that reflected much credit on himself. While presiding as the official county head, his decisions were always just and impartial. Prior to his election to this office, he was connected with county official matters. He was appointed deputy county Clerk, and two years later (in 1866), was elected county Clerk.

Judge Hewel was married in Stanislaus county, November 22, 1871, to Miss Maria Fisher, a native of New York State. They have four children living, viz.; Blanch, Arabella, Catherine and Clarence. They also have four deceased.

Politically, the Judge is an enthusiastic Democrat. He is a member of the F. & A. M., has passed all the chairs in the blue lodge, and has taken the upper degrees of the order, including the chapter, and commandery K. T. He is also a member of the Eastern Star.

FREDRICK DAMBACHER, proprietor of a blacksmith and repair shop at Sonora, is a native of Columbia, California, born August 14, 1857; said to have been the first white male child born in Tuolumne county. He is of German extraction. His father, John Dambacher, a native of Germany, came to America in 1849, and to California the following year. He died in 1858. The mother, Barbara Dambacher, is also a native of Germany. Fredrick was the third-born in a family of eight children, and was reared and educated in his native county. For several years he was engaged in stock-raising. Later he turned his attention to the

blacksmith trade, and is now carrying on that business. As a mechanic of ability, he ranks among the best. He enjoys a good trade and his work is guaranteed.

Mr. Dambacher is a man of family. He was married in Sonora to Miss Emma Stienetz, a native of California, and a daughter of George Stienetz, who crossed the plains to California in 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Dambacher are blessed with an interesting family of six children, viz.: Laura, George, Harrold, Madeline, Fredrick and an infant son.

Politically, Mr. Dambacher is a Democrat. Socially, he is connected with the I. O. O. F., and is a prominent member of the N. S. G. W., of Sonora.

JAMES CUNNINGHAM was born in Ireland, May 12, 1826. His father, James Cunningham, Sr., was an officer in the British army for twenty years; he fought in some of the most famous battles of his time, and died in 1848. The subject of this notice was apprenticed in his youth to learn the art of sailing, and served his time in Liverpool; at the age of seventeen years he went to sea as an apprentice, and was afterward made second mate of the barque John Horrocks; he was first mate of the ship Lancaster, and while on this vessel he suffered the misfortune of having his shoulder broken. Six months after this event he passed an examination and was made captain of the ship Cyclops, the building of which vessel he superintended. In 1850 he started to California as chief officer of the clipper ship Canada, 1,900 tons burden, landing in San Francisco in February, 1851, after a long and stormy voyage. He proceeded at once to the mines, where he was very successful; the following year he took up a tract of 160 acres on Mariposa creek, but soon returned to the mines, during which time some one "jumped" his claim. He then purchased the interest of Captains Smith and Renwick in 320 acres of Government land, which was the nucleus of the ranch he now owns. He and Tom Fowler, afterward Senator from Tulare county, made several successful voyages to Los Angeles and southern California after beef cattle to supply the northern mines; in the meantime he stocked his ranch with cows and horses, and for many years the live-stock business has claimed his attention, and he has conducted the enterprise with such ability that he has amassed a modest fortune. He owns to-day over 9,000 acres in a body, stocked with hundreds of cattle and horses. The ranch lies sixteen miles east of Merced and nine miles east of Plainsburg; at the time Mr. Cunningham took up this land his nearest neighbor on the north was seven miles distant, and the nearest one to the south was seven miles away.

He was married July 30, 1868, to Sophronia Turner, a daughter of Captain Nicholas Turner. They have had born to them three children: James C., Emmet and Margaret.

Mr. Cunningham has been prominently identified with local politics, and has held different offices of honor and trust. He served as Supervisor of his district from 1860 to 1864, and has been School Trustee

for fourteen successive years. He has favored those measures tending to elevate the standard of education, and has contributed liberally of his means toward these ends.

In 1862, during the great flood at Snelling, he saved the lives of thirty-five people who sought refuge in a tree when the hotel was washed from its foundation. Being an old seaman and accustomed to the dangers of the deep, he kept his presence of mind and soon constructed a raft from the kitchen floor of the residence of S. H. P. Ross. With the assistance of Hon. W. J. Howard, Judge Breen and Mr. Perkins, he rescued these people, who otherwise would have met with death at the hands of this relentless element.

GEORGE ROBERT PHENEGAR, deceased, was born at Columbus, Ohio, in the year 1833. He was reared on a farm and lived an uneventful life until 1854, when he crossed the plains to California. After his arrival in Mariposa county he engaged in mining until the breaking out of the Feather river excitement, when he went to that point, where he remained until his removal to Merced county; here he devoted his time to the buying and selling of live-stock, and carried on the industry successfully for many years. In 1879 he purchased 4,700 acres of land, lying in Merced and Mariposa counties. In addition to his live-stock interests he gave some attention to the culture of fruits, and at the time of his death he owned a fine fruit farm in Fresno county, near Selma.

Mr. Phenegar was united in marriage, in 1879, to Mrs. Mary Shang, *nee* Anderson, a native of Missouri and a daughter of John Anderson. Her father crossed the plains in 1857, and now resides in San Luis Obispo county. To Mr. and Mrs. Phenegar were born the following children: George Leonard, Chauncy Anderson, Bert Washburn, who died at the age of six years, and Georgie Roberta. Mr. Phenegar's death occurred October 15, 1887. He was a man of great integrity of character and highly respected by all who knew him. He was possessed of much more than ordinary business ability, and aided very materially in the development of the natural resources of the counties in which he resided. Mrs. Phenegar's residence is located one-half mile east of Plainsburg, where she owns eighty acres of choice agricultural land in addition to the justly celebrated "Antelope Ranch," twelve miles further to the east.

HON. E. A. RODGERS.—Among the leading law practitioners of Tuolumne county none are more worthy of honorable mention in this work than the gentleman with whose name we introduce this notice.

Edwin A. Rodgers is a native of Vermont, born in 1825, and was reared and educated in the Green Mountain State. Having entered Harvard College at a suitable age, he graduated in that institution of learning in due time, and subsequently began reading law under the preceptorship of Judge Underwood, an eminent practitioner. After a thorough legal course, he was duly admitted to the bar.

He did not, however, engage in practice at once. In 1854 he came to California, and soon after his arrival in this State he located in Tuolumne county, and like many of the early pioneers engaged in mining. He was admitted to the bar of Tuolumne county in 1854. He rapidly acquired a remunerative practice, and rose to prominence in his profession, since becoming recognized as one of the most careful, well-grounded and successful attorneys. His career has been that of a successful lawyer, who has at times entered the political arena. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1860, and in 1869 was elected by Tuolumne county to the office of District Attorney.

Mr. Rodgers, although past the meridian of life, is still hale and hearty. Mrs. Rodgers, *nee* Marrow, a native of Massachusetts, is a lady of culture and refinement and presides over her pleasant home with becoming grace and dignity.

EZRA CORDERY MASON, proprietor of the Plainsburg Hotel and drug store, was born in Atlanta county, New Jersey, February 1, 1844, a son of John J. and Julia Ann (Cordery) Mason. The parents were of English and German descent respectively; they reared a family of six children, of whom Ezra was the eldest. He received his education at Abseka, New Jersey, and at the early age of fourteen years went to sea as steward on the schooner Antaros, his uncle, Parker Cordery, being captain; he ran between Philadelphia and Providence, Rhode Island, for three months, when he shipped on the schooner John L. Forsyth, Captain John Grant; he ran between Boston and Philadelphia for a year, and then was on the schooner A. Cordery, Captain Reuben Babcock, for twenty-two months, going the same route. He next shipped on the barque General Cobb, Captain Haskell, to Havre, France, and was absent six months.

On his return home he studied navigation for four months, and at the end of that time shipped as mate on the schooner Antaros, Captain Parker Cordery; after ten months he was made second mate on the schooner Minnie Rippelier, and sailed in this capacity twenty-two months; he was then mate for nine months; next he shipped as mate on the schooner P. Boice, Captain Fred Boice, and sailed to Port Royal, loaded with coal for the Government; there he was ordered to Stone Inlet, South Carolina, with the same cargo; after two months he was ordered to Charleston, South Carolina, arriving there during the bombardment of the city in 1865; on the day following the surrender of the city, the vessel was towed into harbor. By the death of the Captain, Mr. Mason was promoted to that office; after unloading her at Georgetown he took her to Philadelphia. Six months later he bought a small coasting schooner called Franklin F. Randolph, and ran as her Captain for two years between Elizabethtown and Providence. In 1869 he sold out his interests in the East and came to California. For several years he was engaged in agricultural pursuits in San Joaquin county. While

in the employ of Earle & Dewey, Mr. Mason was united in marriage with the daughter of the junior member of the firm, Miss Clara J. Dewey. In 1890 he abandoned farming and purchased the American House at Plainsburg, and has since catered to the traveling public; he also owns the Plainsburg drug-store, and manages both establishments with marked ability.

Mr. and Mrs. Mason are the parents of six children; Henry, Lulu, Elvina, George, Charles and Walter. The mother of this family was called from this life to the reality of the beyond November 29, 1888, at the age of thirty-three years.

M. S. DINGLEY, Postmaster and hardware merchant, Oakdale, California, is too well known to the people of Stanislaus county to need an introduction here. As one of the enterprising and progressive young men of the county, however, he is justly entitled to representation on the pages of this work.

Mr. Dingley was born in this county, January 15, 1858, and in its public schools he received his early education, his collegiate course being completed at the Military Academy at Oakland in 1873. His father, Samuel Dingley, was a native of Maine, a California pioneer of 1850, having made the trip via Panama in that year, and up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1888, was a well-known farmer and stock-raiser of Stanislaus county. The mother, Sarah J. (Sherman) Dingley, was a native of Boston, Massachusetts. She departed this life in 1877. The subject of our sketch is the youngest in their family of three children. He began the battle of life on his own account at the age of sixteen years. For some three years he was prominently identified with the stock business, making a specialty of sheep. Later he engaged in river mining in Stanislaus county. This enterprise, however, was a financial failure, although Mr. Dingley says that he came out with a large amount of experience which he has not since been able to transfer into ready coin. After this he immediately visited Oregon, and followed his trade of plumber and tinsmith in the railroad shops at the Dalles. On his return to California in 1882, he located in Oakdale, and two years later engaged in business, the present firm being Dingley & Woodside, plumbers and dealers in stoves, tinware, etc. Mr Dingley is in politics a Republican. He was appointed Postmaster of Oakdale January 21, 1890, the office being situated in the same building with his other business, and known as a third-class office.

At Knight's Ferry, December 7, 1889, Mr. Dingley was joined in marriage with Miss Nellie F. Barns, a native of California. They have two children living, namely: Albert U. and Alma F. One daughter died in infancy.

C. NELSON, the present Supervisor of District No. 2, Merced county, is one of the men who made the prosperity of this part of California a possibility. He has been closely identified with the inter-

ests of Plainsburg and the surrounding country since 1856, and no one is more deserving of mention in this connection than he. Born in the Empire State in 1833, he is the youngest son of Robert and Margaret (Cross) Nelson, who reared a family of nine children. He attended the common schools until he was fourteen years of age, when he left his studies and turned his attention to agriculture. The stories of the wonderful discovery of gold that floated from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast did not fail to leave their impress upon the ambitious youth, and January 1, 1854, Mr. Nelson sailed from New York city on the Star of the West for Panama; from Greytown to Virgin Bay he went by a small boat; at the latter place he took a pony and rode fourteen miles to San Juan del Sur, and there secured passage on the Pacific for San Francisco, landing in that city twenty-eight days from New York.

His first work in California was on a ranch owned by Mr. Brooks, State Controller and United States Treasurer under President Cleveland. After two months he went to the mines, where he spent two years; he then came to Plainsburg with E. T. Givens, and engaged in farming, carrying on the industry successfully until 1882. He has owned several of the finest farms in Merced county, and it is correct to state that there is not a more practical agriculturist in the community. In 1883 he disposed of all his lands excepting forty acres near Plainsburg, on which he lives.

In November, 1888, he was elected Supervisor of District No. 2, and as such has shown himself capable and worthy of the confidence reposed in him by the people. He is conservative and has conscientiously carried out the wishes and desires of his constituency. He has served as trustee of the Plainsburg school a number of terms, and is a member of Grange No. 297. He is a man highly respected by the entire community and has a host of warm friends.

WILLAIM C. OWENS, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, Oakdale, California, is a native of Pennsylvania, born at Lewiston, May 31, 1854. His parents are Joseph M. and Jane E. (Hopper) Owens, the former also a native of the Keystone State. The Owens family were of Welsh extraction, and were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. William C. is the third in a family of seven children, and was reared and educated in his native State, following various occupations there. He also learned the trade of carriage painter, and worked at that business for a time previous to his coming to California.

Arriving on this coast in September, 1877, Mr. Owens engaged in farming near Modesto. He and his brother, George C. Owens, rented and jointly conducted a farm for some three years, this being the property of George Hopper, their maternal uncle. In 1881 Mr. Owens purchased 487 acres of farm land located ten miles southeast of Oakdale, where he now resides; 400 of this are devoted to grain-growing exclusively, the rest being grazing land. He raises the necessary stock

with which to cultivate his farm. He also is interested in 1,600 acres of rented land on the north side of the Stanislaus river, he and his brother, H. V. Owens, being partners in this enterprise. Almost the entire 1,600 acres are devoted to the production of grain.

Politically, Mr. Owen is allied with the Republican party, and takes an active interest in local matters. Socially, he has been identified with the I. O. O. F. of Modesto.

B. F. FOWLER, who was well known in the early history of the State as an educator, is the present District Attorney of Merced county. He was born in New Hampshire, six miles from the city of Concord, August 22, 1844, a son of Benjamin and Hannah (Campbell) Fowler, natives respectively of Epson and Pembroke, New Hampshire. The first members of the family who emigrated to the North American continent came in 1623; there were three brothers, one of whom settled in Massachusetts, one in Virginia, and Benjamin located in New Hampshire and became a wealthy farmer. He was a man of a superior education, and was particularly proficient in mathematics. He and his wife had born to them seven children, five of whom lived to mature years. There were four sons, all of whom in early life devoted some time to teaching. B. F. Fowler received his education in the common schools of his native county, and later took a course in the Military and Literary Academy at Pembroke, New Hampshire, from which institution he was graduated in 1859, in both the classical and scientific courses. It was his intention at that time to enter Dartmouth, but he was taken ill with a fever from which he was a long time recovering. He traveled through the State of Maine as a book canvasser, but abandoned this employment and started to California. He reached New York city April 11, 1861, and took passage there on the Northern Light for California. He arrived in San Francisco May 10, and proceeded at once to Stockton. He went by stage to Snelling, where he secured employment on a ranch. Agriculture not being suited exactly to his taste, he accepted the position of pedagogue in Snelling, which was then the county seat. These were the primitive days of Merced county; the school was taught in an old wagon-shop which was lined with cheap cotton canvas, and the other appointments were in keeping with this structure. After two years spent in this vocation, Mr. Fowler's health failed, and he was obliged to retire to the mountains. He worked on a dairy farm, and served as cheese-maker, butcher, peddler and vaquero. He was then engaged in milling, mining and clerking successively. Finally in partnership with four others he sank a shaft at Green Gulch mine; he was then employed as amalgamator in the Benton mills, but later on again engaged in mining in Silver mountains, where he made and lost several thousands of dollars. He went to Nevada, then back to Merced, where he drove a team and also mined in Hunter's valley. He helped locate several coal-oil claims in the Coast Range mountains, and in 1865 he started the first "header"

on Merced river, for George Halstead. In 1866–'67 he herded cattle for H. J. Ostrander, and then again entered the school-room at Snelling as instructor; the two years following he taught in Hopeton. In June, 1870, he was appointed Deputy United States Census Marshal for Merced county, and took the census alone. In August of that year he was appointed principal of the Snelling school, and in 1872 he was elected County Superintendent of Schools of Merced county. He was re-elected in 1874, and after the expiration of the second term he resumed teaching, following the profession until 1884.

Previous to this date he had been admitted to the practice of law in a justice's court; he now turned his attention to a thorough study of law, and in November, 1890, he was elected to his present office. He has made a most efficient attorney for the district, and has given a high degree of satisfaction.

Mr. Fowler was married December 24, 1871, to Miss Susan McSwain, a native of Missouri, and of this union the following children have been born: Ora, Stella, William and Ultra. Mr. Fowler is a member of Willow Lodge, No. 121, I. O. O. F., and has served as Deputy District Grand Master for Merced and Stanislaus counties for four years. Politically he is a Republican.

HIRAM HUGHSON, one of the most prominent farmers of Stanislaus county, and of the valley, was born at Middleburg, Schoharie county, New York, November 22, 1830, his parents being Nicholas M. and Charlotte (Duncan) Hughson. His father was also a native of New York State, having been born on Long Island, of that State. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a Revolutionary soldier, and lost his arm by a cannon ball in that famous conflict. The father of our subject was a school teacher in early life, after which he served for a time as county Treasurer of Schoharie county. The mother was a native of Scotland, having been born in Edinburg, that country, and coming, when ten years of age, to New York with her parents. When our subject was a child his mother died, and when he was about twelve years of age the father removed with his family to Chenango county, where his father and his second wife died. When about sixteen years of age our subject went to Elmira, New York, where he entered the dry goods store of R. & E. Covell, with whom he remained nearly four years. He then joined his brother, O. M. Hughson, at Norwich, of the same State, who was very anxious to have our subject associated with him in his dry-goods business.

There he remained until 1857, when he came to California. He left New York on the steamer Star of the West, for Aspinwall, and crossing the Isthmus to Panama he took the steamer John L. Stephens bound for San Francisco, arriving in that city in December, 1857. After a week's sojourn in the Pacific metropolis, he went to Marysville, where he was employed by the dry-goods firm of Kirby & Burns. While there, he saw many men come in from the mines with gold, and

although he was getting a salary of $100 a month and board, he determined to go and dig his wealth out of the ground, which resolution he executed a year later. He went to Forest city, and bought an interest in the Keystone mine, which was worked by a tunnel running 1,000 feet back into the mountains. It proved a failure, and he lost what he put in. In the spring he started for Fraser river, leaving San Francisco with about $2,000. His experience there was a financial failure, and abounded with unpleasant experiences. One day, while packing up a trail, he was wounded in the left arm, having been shot by an Indian from ambush. He afterward lost the arm in an accident with a mowing machine in San Joaquin county. He suffered severely from his wounded arm, and thoroughly disgusted he embarked on an old steamer for San Francisco, where he arrived in the course of six months, financially "broke," having worked his passage from Victoria. He had seven bits of money when he reached his destination. In this situation he cast about him as to what he should do, and it occurred to him that if he could reach Marysville, his former place of residence, he could get work with a gentleman named George Walton, whom he had known there, and who had liked him, having often invited him to his house. He finally wrote to Mr. Walton, who sent him $20, and bade him "come up." He worked for Mr. Walton all that winter and the following summer, and got a start again. He then secured a contract to deliver cattle in the mountains at Monte Cristo and Forest City, buying and delivering the cattle. In this he was quite successful, and in a year after going to Mr. Walton's he had cleared from his wages and cattle deals about $3,000.

He was now being urged by his brother to return to the East and take charge of his dry-goods business at Norwich, his brother having been elected county Treasurer of Chenango county, in which capacity he served at least four terms. He concluded to return, which he did, and put his money into the business, but he found it such a contrast from what he had become accustomed to in California, where he often had cleared $50 on a big steer, that he concluded to return to the West. This he finally did, leaving New York in 1861 on the steamer Ariel, and landing at San Francisco from the steamer Golden Gate. He went directly to Marysville, but finding things dull there, went down to Stockton, near which place he rented land and put in a crop. He plowed 120 with a single plow, sowed it half to wheat and half to barley, and when it was matured he cradled it, hauled it up and stacked it. A man named Tom Marshall, threshed it by a horse-power machine, charging ten cents a bushel, Mr. Hughson furnishing and boarding the men. He then hauled the wheat to Sperry's mill, selling it for $1.25 a hundred. He sold the barley for seventy-five cents a hundred. Then, after paying a quarter of the crop for rent of the land, he still made a little money. He had done a great deal of the work himself, however, as he had made up his mind not to owe any man. In the winter of 1861–'62 he bought 100 head of cattle from Henry Post,

giving in payment his wagon, horses and outfit, and the balance in money. Soon afterward tho great flood came and he lost all but a dozen head.

He next rented some land, and engaged in teaming, his practice being to put in a crop in the winter season, and thon haul his barley up to the mountains, and when he had gotten his crop hauled off and sold he would freight to the different monntain settlements, Sonora, Colnmbia, etc., and as far as Virginia City and Gold Hill. This he continued until the railroad came in and injured the teaming business. He then rented 1,500 acres of land from Al. Ward, which ho worked for about two years, afterward buying a ranch about five miles southeast of Stockton, on the Hogan road, where be located. He resided thero about thirteen years, when he sold out to T. J. Pope. He then bought a ranch for $10 an acre, put on good improvements, making one of the finest farms in the county, which he sold for $25,000. He desired to live where his children could have tho best educational advantages, and accordingly moved into Stockton, where he bought a place on Beaver street, which was the family residence for about seven years. While living there he came to Stanislaus county, where he bought 1,000 acres of his present place. This was about a year after he went to Stockton. He now has 3,120 acres of land, of which 1,280 acres lie about three miles soutb. His family moved upon the present home ranch in the spring of 1886. The improvements upon the place, whicb are upon a large scale, he has made by his own invention and industry. He is one of the best farmers in the State of California, and his place always attracts attention, not only from a distance because of tbe magnitnde of his buildings, but also upon close inspection, when the great ranch looks as neat and trim as a well-kept garden. At the time of the writer's memorable visit, thero were sixty mules plowing on the home ranch, and every acre of both ranches was being summer-fallowed.

Mr. Hughson was married in San Joaqnin county, in November, 1865, to Miss Ella R. Avery, a native of Iowa. They have ten children: Belle, Ora M., Georgo, Mary, Edna, Minnie, Hiram, Pet, Olive and Lester.

Mr. Hughson is a Republican, coming honestly by his preferences, his father having been an old-line Whig. He is a man who would make a success of anything in which it was possible to succeed, because ho gives his attention to his business, is a worker and a man of superior judgment.

FRANK J. RALPH, wheelwright and wagon-maker, Sonora, California, is a native of Tnolumne county, and dates his birth September 12, 1866. The parents of young Ralph are Jonathan and F. Esther A. (Wyman) Ralph. The father is a native of Vermont. His ancestors were English, thoir advent into the State of Vermont antedating Revolutionary times. Jonathan Ralph is a pioneer of 1852, he having crossed tho plains with the great throng of gold hunters in that year. Like the majority of early

pioneers to this State, he engaged in mining. The mother of our subject is a native of Maine and a descendant of one of the old and influential families of the Pine Tree State. In their family of five children, Frank J. was the second-born. He was reared and educated in his native county, spending his early life on the farm. He learned the trade of wheelwright with Patrick Burke, of Sonora, and in 1890 established himself in business at his present quarters on Washington street, near the county hospital. Although a young man, he is certainly one who is a perfect master of his trade, and he has a lucrative and growing business.

In principle, Mr. Ralph is a Republican; he does not, however, take an active part in political matters. Socially, he affiliates with the I. O. O. F., and fills an official position in in Sonora Lodge, No. 10. He is also a member of the Young Men's Club of Sonora. He is a man of many sterling qualities and one who is highly respected in the community where he resides.

SAMUEL GIBSON, one of the substantial citizens of Stanislaus county, has had his share of the varied experiences of pioneer life in California. He was born in Osage county, Missouri, on February 8, 1833, his parents being James and Margaret (Morrow) Gibson. His father was born in Kentucky, emigrating from there to Missouri with his parents when quite young. The country was wild at that time, and he grew to manhood in the new settlement, when he married Margaret Morrow, who was also born in Kentucky.

In 1850 the subject of our sketch emigrated to California, crossing the plains by ox team on the old emigrant route. He stopped at Placerville, where he had his first mining experience, remaining there four to five weeks. In the winter of 1850 he went to the Cosumnes river, where he mined until spring, then going to Georgetown, where he was engaged for a year in the chosen vocation of the early Californians. From there he went to Big bar, on the American river, where he, with others, flumed the river. After this difficult and expensive work was accomplished, they found it did not "pan out" as they had expected; accordingly he returned to Georgetown, where he mined for two years. His mining experience so far had not, on the whole, been profitable, although at times he had made considerable money: he accordingly turned his attention in another direction. Providing himself with ammunition and fire arms, he went to the mountains, twenty-five miles above Georgetown, and followed hunting as a business. When he had a mule load of game, he would take it to the mining camp, and find a ready sale for it at good prices. He hunted for a year, then went to Eureka, Butte county, where he mined for a similar length of time, then going to Remington Hill, on Bear river, he mined at Lowell Hill, near by, for about four years. He then became interested with a company, which was extensively engaged in ditching for mining purposes. This ditch work

occupied a great deal of time. In July, 1859, he went to Virginia City, during the early excitement in that place, and being pleased with the prospect returned to California, where he closed up his business, and taking some other boys with him returned to Nevada. He prospected about the Virginia City region, and after concluding it was not up to his expectations, went to Eagle valley, where he worked for a widow, his wages being small for a miner, but the accommodations far ahead of camp life. In the spring of 1860 he went to Mono Lake, in the Walker river region, where he mined and drove teams alternately for about two years, mining in winter and teaming in summer. In the fall, after two years there, he went to Aurora, and while hunting in that vicinity he found tracks of prospectors. He found them and camped with them, and found they had struck good ore. The Indians were very troublesome, however, necessitating constant vigilance. He prospected with his new-found friends for four or five days, when more prospectors soon came in; and when there were ten or fifteen they organized a miners' district, and chose James Bramley as recorder. The winter was a hard one, and as there were no supplies nearer than Carson or Virginia, they were on short allowance, and some ran entirely out of provisions, so that those who had a few supplies had to divide with their less fortunate companions. Mr. Gibson, being a good hunter, shot some game occasionally, which greatly helped the larder, the game consisting of an occasional mountain sheep, rabbits and sage hens. He thoroughly identified himself with that region, and was interested in some of the best mines. Hon. A. P. Crittenden was a partner with him in the Utah mine. While in that district, he also met M. Bodie, the old Frenchman, after whom the celebrated mining camp was named. He has an exceedingly interesting fund of reminiscences of his early experiences in the five years he spent about Aurora, as well as of other points which he visited in his long mining career. In 1863 Mr. Gibson made a favorable sale of some of his mining interests at Aurora, and bought 200 acres of State land, farther down in the valley, located in San Joaquin county. He has made a success of farming, and now has 800 acres of fine agricultural land, lying in one body along the river bank, which is well improved in every way.

He was married, in Stanislaus county, in October, 1873, to Miss Guadalupe Ramirez, a native of Calaveras county, California. She died August 7, 1879. They had two children: James and Richard. Three years later, on February 18, 1882, Mr. Gibson was married to Miss Crescencia McLean, his present wife. She was born at Sonora, Tuolumne county, California, and is the daughter of Archibald and Marianna (Serrand) McLean. They have five children: Marianna, Abelardo, Samuel, Clement and Rudolph.

Mr. Gibson is a Democrat, and takes an active interest in public affairs. He has seen far more of mining life than most of the pioneers of California, and has been identified with some of the most celebrated mining camps of the State. Although now engaged

in an entirely different vocation, he has made a success of his efforts, and now ranks among the most substantial citizens of Stanislaus county.

LYNN ATCHINSON FINNEY, one of the representative citizens of Stanislaus county, was born in Barry county, Missouri, near Cassville, on the 3d of April, 1845. His parents were John W. and Minerva (Walker) Finney, the father a member of one of the old families of Virginia, where he was born September 30, 1804. The mother was born in Tennessee, April 17, 1806, near Lebanon. They were married when he was Sheriff of Barry county, and he was Justice of the Peace of that county when our subject was born. When the latter was an infant the family removed to Carroll county, Arkansas, locating near White river. Near the close of the last Mexican war, Mr. John W. Finney was placed in command of a company, but the war ended before he was called into service. In 1850 he came to California and mined throughout the diggings from Placerville to Mariposa, but principally on the American river, in the vicinity of Placerville, returning to Arkansas in 1852. Five years later, in 1857, he returned bringing his family with him. They came across the plains, by way of the Platte, Humboldt and Carson river to Placerville, spending the winter in that vicinity. In the spring they went to Mendocino county, locating at Little Lake, twelve or fourteen miles from Ukiah. From there they removed to Stanislaus county, locating on the Tuolumne river, near what is now Waterford. In September, 1863, the father went to Tuolumne county, locating about four miles above Sonora, where they resided until about 1884, when he went to Tulare county. A year later he went to San Joaquin county, where he met his death, being killed in a railroad accident near French Camp, September 3, 1889. The widow is now a resident of Modesto.

L. A. Finney, subject of this sketch, was the fifth in order of age of seven children, six boys and two girls. In 1865, leaving Stanislaus county, he teamed over the mountains to Nevada, and made two separate trips from Lake Tahoe to the Gould and Curry and other mines in and about Virginia City. After a year in that section, he returned to Stanislaus county, working for others for wages until 1870, when he rented a place on the Stanislaus river, moving in 1871 to his present location, where he has 640 acres of good land, well improved, with family orchard and garden about the residence.

Mr. Finney was married on the 8th day of September, 1873, to Miss Florella Kelso, a native of Buchanan county, Missouri, and daughter of John R. and Mary Adelia (Moore) Kelso. Mr. and Mrs. Finney have six children: Erwin, Clara, Lynn, Mabel, Wallace and Florella.

Mr. Finney is a Democrat politically, and takes an active interest in public affairs.

Colonel John R. Kelso, father of Mrs. Finney, was a prominent man, and one possessed of marked ability and great strength of character. A brief mention of his career is essen-

tial in this connection. He was born March 23, 1831, near Columbus, Ohio, and in his younger years received the advantages of a thorough education, choosing for his life vocation the profession of an educator. When he was ten years of age the family removed to Missouri. When the Civil war broke out he offered his services to the Government as a private soldier, declining the office of Major, and, being accepted, nobly did his part in defense of the flag as a member of the Eighth Regiment, M. S. M. Cavalry. His service was principally in that most arduous and dangerous line of duty, combating the bushwhackers infesting Missouri. He was in many engagements and several times severely wounded, from the effects of which he never fully recovered. He was discharged August 31, 1865. In the war his efforts were signally successful, so much so that he advanced step by step, until at the close of the war he had a Colonel's commission, won by meritorious service. Returning to his home when his work as a soldier was done, he was elected to Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri in the autumn of 1865, serving with credit and ability for two years in the national halls of legislation. In 1871 he came to California, teaching school from 1872 to 1885 in this county, where he was much esteemed for his many sterling traits of character. He was a deep and liberal thinker, and has left many expressions of his profound and liberal views in published form, among them being the "Universe Analyzed," "The Devil's Defense," "The Real Blasphemers," "The Bible Analyzed," "Spiritualism Sustained," etc., etc. He died in Colorado January 26, 1891, near the close of his sixtieth year.

CHARLES BURDEN, President of the Board of City Trustees of Sonora.—Prominent among Tuolumne county's representative business men is the gentleman whose name heads this biographical mention. It is a pleasure to recount the events in the active business life of a man like Mr. Burden, who had not the advantages of an American education, such as is possessed by the youth of the present day. His education and knowledge of the business world were acquired in the strict school of experience. Mr. Burden is of English nativity, having been born in the great metropolis of the world, January 12, 1823. He was reared and apprenticed to the cabinet-maker's trade in his native land. He came to California, his wife and a family of three children accompanying him, in 1854. Since that time three others have been born, but of these three only one survives.

On his arrival in California Mr. Burden at once located at Brown's Flat, Tuolumne county, where he purchased an interest in the New York claim and began the life of a practical miner, working very hard three years, but not being successful in the enterprise he came to Sonora, where his ability as a mechanic enabled him to find employment with the firm of Salter & Dorsey. He remained with them until their failure, in 1859, when he took the remnant of stock and

established business on his own account, and for over thirty years has carried on a successful business as a furniture dealer and undertaker. His business enterprises have been a success from the start, although he has met with misfortune in the way of fire. In 1861 his establishment was burned, and he lost heavily. Nothing daunted, however, he re-established himself with the small insurance he had on his stock, and has since amassed considerable valuable business and residence property on Washington street. For several years he has been engaged in buying and selling real estate. In addition to his handsome residence property his real estate consists of his store adjacent to the residence, and Washington Hall, opposite, and also other property near by.

Mr. Burden became an American citizen in 1859, and has since been a stanch and active Republican politically. For several terms he had held the office of County Coroner, and also public administrator. He was appointed a Notary Public by Governor Booth in 1875. Has been a member of the City Council over ten years, and has had the honor of occupying the chair for the past nine years. He is an active and consistent member of St. James' Episcopal Church, and is the regular lay reader by the appointment from the bishop, and with the assistance from a fine choir holds regular morning services, which are well attended; also a Past Grand in the I. O. O. F., his membership dating back to the Manchester Unity (England) in 1843. In 1861 he allied himself with Sonora Lodge, No. 10, and a little later with the Encampment branch of the order, and also holds a membership in the order of Chosen Friends, and affiliates socially with the Young Men's Club of this city. His social standing in the community is attested by the large circle of his friends and associates. He is charitably disposed and contributes freely to the appeals of the poor.

BENJAMIN CALHOUN HILL TURNER, one of the most successful young agriculturists of Merced county, is deserving of mention in this connection, and the following space will be devoted to a brief outline of his career. He is a native of California, born in Merced county, April 21, 1860, and a son of Joseph L. and Martha (Welch) Turner, whose history appears elsewhere in this work. He acquired a good education in the public schools, which he attended until he was twenty years of age. In 1880 he was united in marriage to Miss Clara M. Truman, a native of Santa Clara county. The following year he embarked in the mercantile trade at Selma, Fresno county, and three years later disposed of the business and went to the mountains with live-stock. At the end of two years, however, he returned to Merced county and engaged in farming. He owns one of the best improved ranches in Merced county, lying near Plainsburg; he takes a deep interest in all questions pertaining to agriculture, and is regarded as one of the most successful farmers in the community. He was one of the prime movers in the organization of the Plainsburg Grange in

1891, and was its first Master. He is a strict temperance man, and in 1890 was nominated by the high-license party for county Recorder.

Mr. and Mrs. Turner are the parents of five children: Lawrence E., Ethel A., Fred D., Bessie and Elsie.

FRANK HOWELL, proprietor of the Merced City Roller Mills, is a Native Son of the Golden West, born in Merced county in 1857. His father, B. F. Howell, crossed the plains in 1853, assisted in the organization of the county in 1856, and was one of the first Supervisors. He died in August, 1891, aged seventy-one years. Frank is the third of a family of five children. After he had completed the common-school course he was made cashier of the Merced Bank, which position he held from March 1, 1882, until December, 1891. At this time he purchased the mills at Snelling, which were established in 1853, having the oldest water right in the county; they were built by H. J. Ostrander, and are located on Merced river, one and a quarter miles below Snelling. In July, 1888, a complete set of rollers were put in, which gives the mills a capacity of fifty-five barrels a day. Plans are now completed for lighting the mills by electricity.

Mr. Howell purchased this property in February, 1891, with G. Sanderson as a partner, whose interest he bought the following July; he now owns the mill property with eleven acres of fine river-bottom land. The warehouse has a capacity of 2,500 tons, and he pays within 5 cents per bushel for grain of the ruling price at Merced, seventeen miles distant.

His residence, located on a high bluff overlooking the valley, is known as Bella Vista; it was formerly owned by Mr. Curtis.

As an insurance agent Mr. Howell represents the Manchester, the Caledonia and the American companies. He is a man of rare business ability, and as a citizen is held in the highest estimation.

He was married April 14, 1880, to Miss Belle Little, a native of Missouri, and to them have been born four children: Edward, Margaret, Bert and Belle. Mr. Howell is a member of Yo Semite Lodge, No. 24, Knights of Pythias. He has filled the office of Deputy Sheriff under Mr. Price and Mr. Rector; he also served through the unexpired term of Mr. Price as County Treasurer.

VENABLE CLAYTON WALES HOOPER, deceased, was one of Merced's first citizens, and as such it is fitting that his name should be recorded in this history of the county he aided so largely in developing. He was born in Washington county, Georgia, August 1, 1832, a son of Obadiah Hooper, who was a Southern planter. His mother's maiden name was Matilda Diadem Murdock, the daughter of a surgeon in the British army; both the maternal and paternal grandfathers were soldiers in the war of the Revolution, but were on opposite

sides. When Mr. Hooper was nineteen years of age he crossed the plains to California as captain of a large company. In 1853 he returned to Arkansas and there bought 1,000 head of cattle, which he drove to California. The winter of 1854 was passed at Salt Lake, and early in 1855 he arrived in the Golden State with his live-stock. From 1855 to 1857 he was engaged in buying and selling cattle in Yuba county, when he determined to lead a more settled life. In order to carry out this design he went into the general mercantile trade at Healdsburg, Sonoma county.

It was during his residence there, December 30, 1859, that he was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Wane, a native of Missouri and a daughter of Elias N. and Mary A. (Wiles) Wane, natives of Virginia and Missouri respectively. Mrs. Hooper's parents emigrated to California in 1852, making the journey overland. Her father died in 1883, at the age of eighty years; the mother died in 1870, aged sixty years. Soon after his marriage Mr. Hooper went to Yuba county and was engaged in the cattle business there for two years. In 1862 he went to Oregon, where he was very successful in business, but in 1865 he returned to Yuba county and farmed and cultivated fruits until 1873. He then brought a band of sheep to Merced county, and soon afterward purchased land on which he planted the trees which now beautify a portion of the city of Merced. In October, 1873, he made a purchase of land, a tract of 700 acres, five miles east of Merced, to which he afterward added 1,600 acres. This immense body was devoted to the raising of live-stock and to agriculture until a few years ago. Desirous of seeing the country more thickly settled, and believing in the great possibilities of California as a fruit country, Mr. Hooper laid out his broad wheat-fields into colony tracts, and offered the land to the public for sale. The last six years of his life were devoted to this purpose. The first lots in Yo Semite colony were sold in 1890, and the seventeen families cultivating their purchases are demonstrating the truth of the theory held by Mr. Hooper. He was an active member of the Merced County Board of Trade, and at the time of his death was its president. There was never an enterprise inaugurated that failed to receive his support when its object was the development of the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Hooper had born to them a family of nine children: Murdock B.; Emma, wife of Albert E. Upton; Edward L., Eugene C., Linden, Vennie, Rosa and Ethel. The news of Mr. Hooper's death, which occurred July 7, 1891, was received by the public with the deepest regret. The cortege that followed his remains to their last resting-place was one of the longest ever seen on the streets of Merced. He was an esteemed member of the I. O. O. F., which body conducted the ceremonies of his interment.

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